

MIDLANDS

THE UK'S BIGGEST REGIONAL GAY LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

# ZONE

THE ESSENTIAL NIGHTLIFE +  
CLUBBING GUIDE

ISSUE 209 £1.80 SEPTEMBER 2014

INSIDE

## SUMMER OF PRIDE

YOUR 8 PAGE GUIDE TO PRIDE  
EVENTS AROUND THE  
MIDLANDS

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WE REVEAL JUST HOW  
GAY FRIENDLY MIDLANDS  
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HOTTEST BRIEFS THIS SEASON!

ISSN 1462-7035



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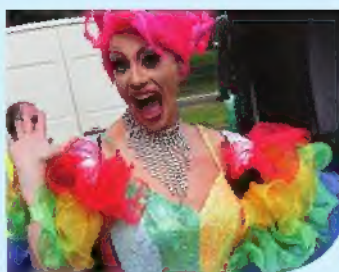
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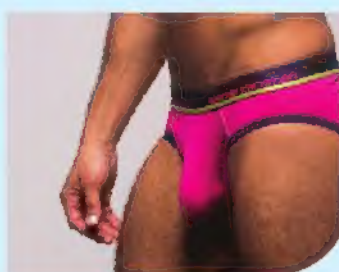
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## The Editor's Note

Ryan Humphreys @ryanhumphreys

Welcome to the September edition of Midlands Zone. This month's Issue is packed with features, interviews, news of events and, of course, your definitive guide to the biggest and best nights out in venues across the Midlands gay scene.

### The end of the Pride season...



This month brings to a close one of the best Pride seasons we've seen in years. Kicking it all off way back in May (it seems so long ago now, doesn't it?) was the biggest and best ever Birmingham Pride, featuring fantastic headline acts - including Conor Maynard, Katy B and Gabrielle - and the biggest ever Carnival Parade, with Peter Tatchell leading the way through the city streets.

And then, of course, there are all the other Pride events that took place across the region: Nottingham, Stoke-on-Trent, Walsall, Leicester, Gloucester. The Midlands is certainly a great place to live as an LGBT person.

The Pride season is brought to a close by two final events, in Wolverhampton and Derby. We'll take a look back at both festivals in the October issue. In the meantime, check out the eight-page Pride feature in this month's issue, complete with coverage of August's Stoke-On-Trent and Walsall events.

We're sad to see the Pride season end, but fear not - it'll be May again before we know it!

### By George, it's Boy George!

This month I had the pleasure of talking to one of Britain's biggest gay icons about his newly announced reunion with his pals from the 1980s. Yes, Boy George is heading back out on tour later this year with Karma Chameleon stars Culture Club.

In this issue's interview with George, he talks about the upcoming Culture Club album, his career as a much-respected solo artist, and how gay culture has changed since he first shot to stardom over three decades ago.

Be sure to check it out. The guy who brought



us all those fantastic '80s hits remains as fascinating and attention-grabbing as ever.

### How comfortable are you in your community?



Late last month, a global survey was announced, revealing the attitudes towards gays and lesbians from their local communities.

According to Gay Star News, only 28% of those surveyed around the world said they lived in a community that was welcoming of gays and lesbians.

Now I don't know about you, but I think the majority of people I've come across in the Midlands seem pretty accepting towards our fantastic LGBT community. Of course, there's going to be the small minority that despise who we are, but more fool them I say. For evidence of how accepted we are in our communities, you only need to look at Pride festivals - when we're marching through the streets, full of colour and cheer and there's hundreds and thousands of strangers lining the streets support us.

If of course you feel that you're not comfortable in your community, write into us and let us know. It's something we're keen to research further.

Well that's it for this month folks, I hope you enjoy reading the September issue!

Ryan X

## What's Hot!

### Bake Off is back!



We're loving that the Great British Bake Off is back, complete with Queen of Baking Mary Berry and the hilarious Mel and Sue. And we're certainly welcoming the return of Paul Hollywood and his dreamy blue eyes. He's definitely our 'older man' crush.

### Pride: The Movie released this month



A new gay-themed movie is this month set to be a smash-hit at the cinema. Based on a true story, Pride is set during the 1984 miners' strike. It follows the efforts of a group of gays and lesbians to raise money to help support those who're striking.

## What's Not!

### Silly complaints!



A number of complaints were received by Ofcom last month over a lesbian kiss in Doctor Who (well, by lesbian, we mean a woman and a female lizard-like alien!). Ridiculous. Stonewall had the right response, though: Some lizards are gay. Get over it!





# COMING OUT STORIES

## who wants ya? **WE DO**

Birmingham LGBT is seeking participants willing to share their 'Coming Out Stories' as part of our Heritage Lottery funded project. This exciting creative research project will explore what happens when people "come out of the closet" and the differences between coming out today and what it was like to "come out" in the recent past.

Older or younger, your stories will add to the rich fabric of Birmingham's LGBT heritage. We will be collecting audio oral histories and looking for community members who are willing to be filmed. We are looking for a diversity of voices and stories; the only ask is that participants have lived or worked in the Birmingham area, even if not currently resident.



**Want to know more?**

**Contact**

**[sarahblackstock@blgbt.org](mailto:sarahblackstock@blgbt.org)**

**[www.blgbt.org](http://www.blgbt.org)**

**0121 643 0821**





# Grant Lees

**Operations Director**  
C:21, Shrewsbury

Born: London  
Star sign: Aries  
Age: 29

*Each month we take a look at someone from the Midlands LGBT community. This month, our focus turns on Grant Lees, the Operations Director of Shrewsbury's C:21 bar and nightclub.*

## About Grant

### Where did you grow up?

I grew up in rural Shropshire, being brought up by my Grandmother. It was a quiet village, but perfect for my childhood hobbies.

### Single or attached?

I'm single.

### What makes you happy?

I get happiness and fulfillment from seeing people get enjoyment from something that I've put a great deal of effort into. It makes it all worthwhile.

### What makes you sad?

Unnecessarily rude people. Manners cost absolutely nothing.

### What makes you angry?

Ignorance.

### If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

I'd like to be more physically active than I already am.

### What's been the most embarrassing thing you've done in your life?

There have been many. Some of my fashion faux pas in my younger days, but to name a few! String vests and batty riders - what was I thinking? (Sorry Nan!)

### Now that same-sex marriage has been legalised, would you consider getting married?

Yes, if I met the right person and it was what we both wanted.

## Coming Out

### When did you first know you were gay?

I suppose I had always known, deep down. It wasn't until I started fancying boys that I questioned it.

### When did you come out?

It wasn't really my choice, as I was outed at school. But in hindsight, it was the best thing to happen, my friends, family and peers were all very supportive and it's never really been a problem.

### What was school like for you as a gay teenager?

Going to school in rural Shropshire had its challenges like most places have. I was the only out gay guy at my school, so I guess it was seen as quite novel.

### Who was the first person you told, and what was their reaction?

I first told an older female friend who had apparently been waiting for years for me to tell her. It would appear that I was the last one to find out!

### What would you say to a youngster trying to come to terms with their own sexuality?

Whilst it might not seem like it at the time, there are bigger things in the world than whether you chose to spend your life with a man or a woman (or both). Stay true to yourself and don't be afraid to seek advice and support, because we all need a cwtch from time to time!

### Have you ever had any experiences with the opposite sex?

No. That's gross.

## Your Career

### When you were younger, what did you want to be?

When I was younger, I always wanted to be a policeman. I was always brought up to have great respect for authority figures (secretly I think I just liked the uniform).

### What was your first job after leaving school?

I've always been very career driven and from leaving school, I trained to be a chef and worked full time in my local pub.

### When did you start working at C:21 in Shrewsbury?

I started working for C:21 when I was 18 years old as a Junior Supervisor. It was great fun. It just goes to show that with hard work and dedication, you can progress well within your career.

### What challenges do you face working at C:21?

Managing for a constantly developing group of venues, everyday is a challenge in its own way. But for every problem, there is always the right solution. It's this buzz that keeps me on my toes.

### What are the highlights of working in the nightclub industry?

The highlights for me are that it's a huge amount of fun and offers great personal reward if you work

hard. It's fantastic to see thousands of people every week having the time of their life!

### What do you think sets C:21 apart from the rest?

I think the company's vision, great team of staff and our lovely customers set us apart from the rest. We have a varied live entertainment offering, which sees people travel from across the region for a great night out!

### What's coming up for C:21?

The next few months are set to be really exciting for us. C:21 is currently undergoing a major refurbishment, launching later this month. The new look C:21 is set to be absolutely fabulous and we've got some tricks up our sleeves to ensure our customers will love us even more!

### Where do you want to see C:21 in five years' time?

In five years time I'd like to see C:21 out of a plane window on my way to Gran Canaria! Only kidding! In five years time, C:21 will still be at the forefront of changing trends. Onwards and upwards! #ChangingShropshire

### Where do you want to see yourself in five years' time?

In five years time, I'd like to see myself leading our team to even greater successes.

## Gay Scene

### How long have you been frequenting the Midlands gay scene and what's your earliest memory?

My first experiences of the Midlands gay scene were actually at C:21 itself. Then I started venturing out in Birmingham and you could regularly find me in me in Route 2 and Subway City on a Thursday night.

### Who's your favourite cabaret act on the gay scene?

At C:21 we have the pleasure of hosting a number of great cabaret acts. It's difficult to pick a favourite, but if I had to, they would have No Name.

### Who's your favourite person on the gay scene?

I've got equal respect and admiration for many of the other bar and nightclub owners and managers across the Midlands. They work hard to make the gay scene what it is and a great place to travel for.



**What do you most enjoy about the gay scene?**

I really like the way in which everybody works together to ensure a bright, vibrant and diverse offer, ensuring there really is something for everyone.

**What have you noticed about the way the gay scene has changed over the years?**

The gay scene has definitely diversified over the past decade. It is certainly more mixed than ever before. The gay scene is seen as a safe, friendly and electric environment for all to enjoy, no matter what your sexuality.

**How would you change the Midlands' gay scene?**

I wouldn't really change it too much as I think it's a great place that the Midlands LGBT community should be proud of.

## Time Out

**Where do you like to go on a night out?**

I'm a big fan of nice drinks, so any bar that serves a fantastic Espresso Martini definitely gets my vote! I do, however, enjoy a great night out in London.

**What do you do to relax?**

I enjoy equine sports, walking and cooking for friends.

**What do you enjoy on telly?**

I don't get to watch much TV, but no matter how busy I am, I always make an effort to catch up with what's happening in Emmerdale. It's my guilty pleasure.

**What was the last album or track you bought?**

I don't buy music anymore, as I use Spotify. But my favourite song of the moment is Hideaway by Keiza because I've got some really fond memories of this song with live sax performing in the club.

**Which one website do you spend the most time on?**

Facebook.

**Which type of holiday do you prefer?**

There's nothing I love better than going on a sunny beach holiday. It gives me a chance to sit back, relax and top up my tan!



## Quickfire

**If you were to be in a Hogwarts house, what would it be?**

I'm totally a Gryffindor!

**What's your favourite book?**

I'm really enjoying the Game of Thrones series at the moment.

**Half-empty or half-full?**

Half-full.

**What's your favourite food?**

Japanese, which is great because we've just opened up a new Ramen Noodle Bar called Momo-No-Ki, right next door to C:21.

**And how about your favourite drink?**

I have loads - from a good G&T to most well balanced cocktails. The White Lady being my favourite.

**Madonna or Lady Gaga?**

Madonna. She's a classic.

**Gaydar or Grindr?**

None.

**If you could take a selfie with one person, alive or dead, who would it be?**

Elton John.



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**What's On**  
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We endorse the recycling of our magazine and would encourage you to pass it on to others to read when you have finished with it.

## SCENE Popular Stoke-On-Trent gay venue The Factory to shut its doors this month



In what may have come as a shock to many, it was announced last month that popular Stoke-on-Trent bar & club The Factory is this month to shut its doors for the final time.

The venue, which has been at the heart of the town's gay community for many years, will be closing down on Saturday 27 September. It will be going out with a bang, however, by throwing a goodbye party on the same night.

Moving to quash various persistently circulating rumours, Marc Richardson, Director of The Factory, told Midlands Zone that the venue isn't closing for any rea-

son other than that the premises have been sold for re-development.

As a result, The Factory will be moving onto pastures new - a slightly smaller venue within Hanley which is said to be approximately the same size as fellow venues The Three Tuns and Pink. The venue is also going to be given a rebrand, details of which have yet to be announced.

At the time of going to press, Midlands Zone was told that the new venue will be opening in the first or second week of October.

## CRIME Midlands bishop who made gay marriage apology quizzed by police

A Midlands bishop who apologised for the tone of the Church of England's pastoral response to same-sex marriage has been interviewed by police investigating two allegations of indecent assault.

BBC News reports: 'The Bishop of Gloucester, the Rt Rev Michael Perham, announced on Friday he would "step-back" from his duties with immediate effect.'

'Police confirmed only that a 66-year-old man attended a police station in Gloucester but was not arrested.'

'The alleged offences, dating back to 1980 and 1981, relate to a child under the age of 18 and a woman over that age.'

The Telegraph reports: 'Bishop Perham distanced himself from a pastoral statement released by the House of Bishops earlier this year in response to the introduction of same-sex marriage - which the Church opposed.'

'He had said in May: "The House of Bishops, producing a statement under some pressure, underestimated how uncompromising and hurtful the statement felt to some. The tone was harsh - there was not much sense of welcome to all as children of God. I am sorry for that and for the hurt I know it has engendered."

'He had called for people on both sides of the debate to exercise "gracious restraint" to give the Church "space" to consider the issue.'

## HATE Leicestershire police launch investigation into 'vile' hate crime

A man dressed in a monk's habit has posted "vile" homophobic leaflets through doors in Leicestershire.

The Leicester Mercury reports: 'Police have launched a hate crime investigation into the incident, which happened on Tuesday afternoon in part of Market Harborough.'

'Several people have complained about the leaflet, which claimed homosexuality was a sin, immoral, a pathological condition and the work of "the Devil".'

'It also claimed homosexuality was "directly linked to pagan idolatry and its attendant depravity" and that events such as Leicester Pride were "lewd occasions".'

'Many residents were disturbed and upset by the two-sided leaflet, Homosexuality - a few points, which also condemned gay men and les-

bians as "needing healing, not approval".'

'A police spokeswoman said: "It has been logged as a crime and is under investigation. We are liaising with other forces but it is too early to link it directly to the Cambridge and Brighton incidents."

'She said one person who called in to complain said the monk appeared to be with another man, in normal clothing.'

'She said. "One was in his late 30s. The other was dressed in a black monk's outfit. Officers attended the area but could not find anyone. Several other people came forward reporting the same leaflet."

'People who might have seen the man or men responsible are asked to contact the police on 101, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.'



## HEALTH One in five people with HIV in the West Midlands undiagnosed

One in five people with HIV in the West Midlands remain undiagnosed, latest research suggests.

The Birmingham Mail reports: 'The figure - described as "hugely concerning" by a Birmingham MP - comes as statistics suggest there are more people living with HIV than ever before in the region.'

'In 2012, there were an estimated 6,558 people living with the virus in the West Midlands.'

'HIV - the Human Immunodeficiency Virus - leads to AIDS. However, there is an interval, sometimes years, between the initial infection and the onset of symptoms.'

'Now Northfield Labour MP Richard Burden will hear at first hand how the battle against HIV is progressing during a visit to the city's Terrence Higgins Trust Centre.'

'Mr Burden will meet staff and volunteers and tour the premises in Herbert Road, Small Heath on Thursday.'

'Terrence Higgins Trust offers a range of HIV and sexual health services locally, including long-term condition management and counselling for people living with HIV.'

'Mr Burden said: "I'm really pleased to be visiting Birmingham's Terrence Higgins Trust Cen-

tre. Tackling HIV both at home and internationally remains an enormous challenge, and it's hugely concerning to see that one in five people living with HIV in the West Midlands remain undiagnosed. With more people living with HIV in the region than ever before, the work of the Terrence Higgins Trust, in providing local HIV and sexual health services, management and counselling remains vital."

'Centre manager Tom Greenwood said: "It's fantastic that Richard Burden is helping us raise awareness of our work."

"One in five people remain undiagnosed in the area, so it's important that we let people know what services are on offer locally, as well as encourage them to get tested."

'Terrence Higgins Trust is the UK's largest HIV and sexual health charity with centres across England, Scotland and Wales. It provides information and advice about HIV and sexual health and offers a range of services including sexual health checks, counselling and support groups. It campaigns for a world where people with HIV live healthy lives, free from prejudice and discrimination, and promotes good sexual health as a right for all.'

## NATIONAL NEWS

### POLITICS Over 1,400 gay marriages took place in first three months after new law's introduction

Just over 1,400 same-sex weddings took place in the first three months after the new gay marriage law was introduced, official figures have revealed. Of these, 56% were female couples and 44% were male.

BBC News reports: 'The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 was introduced in England and Wales on 29 March this year.'

'The law triggered a rush of couples vying to be the first to tie the knot at midnight.'

'The figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) are the first official assessment of the popularity of the law change.'

## HEALTH Terrence Higgins Trust in Coventry expands HIV testing service into community settings

HIV and sexual health charity Terrence Higgins Trust has expanded its free rapid HIV testing service to include community settings in Coventry, in a bid to encourage more regular HIV testing locally.

In 2012, there were an estimated 6,558 people living with HIV in the West Midlands and around one in five of these people were undiagnosed.

The charity is inviting local people to come to one of its drop-in sessions to talk about anything to do with their sexual health and get tested. Testing involves a finger prick blood test, providing results in 20 minutes. Trained staff and volunteers will provide one-to-one support before and after the test, and anyone who tests positive will be referred on to a specialist clinic.

The free rapid HIV testing service will be avail-

able at the following locations:

- Every Second Monday monthly, from 10am-12pm at Dr Sharma and Partners, Remembrance Road
- Every Monday, from 10am-1pm at Coventry Hill Street Community Centre, Rugby
- Every Tuesday, from 10am-1pm at St Peters Community Centre, Coventry
- Every Tuesday, from 10am-1pm at Coventry Sports and Leisure Centre
- Every Friday, from 12pm-2pm at Vantage Chemist, Far Gosford St, Coventry

The team hope that by expanding the service they will encourage local people who are unable to access the clinic at Terrence Higgins Trust's centre on Quinton Road, to come forward for testing.

## SEX Lesbians have better sex than anyone else, new research reveals

Lesbians have better sex than anyone else, according to new research.

Gay Star News reports: 'Women in lesbian relationships are more likely to reach orgasm during sex than straight or even bisexual women.'

'While men still experience more orgasms in bed, women of all sexualities have more variety and were generally more satisfied.'

## RELIGION One in 200 UK churchgoers are in gay relationships

One in 200 UK churchgoers has entered into a formal relationship with someone of the same sex, new research shows.

PinkNews.co.uk reports: 'A survey conducted by Christian Research found that 0.6% of churchgoers are in a civil partnership, slightly more than the number cohabiting.'

'Christian Today reports the number is "high" considering the widespread hostility to same-sex relationships among the leadership of many Christian churches.'

## PRIDE Organisers of Stoke Pride planning for 2015

Organisers of Stoke's biggest festival celebrating the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community are already looking forward to next year after their latest successful event.

The Stoke Sentinel reports: 'Around 2,000 people attended the Stoke-on-Trent Pride festival at Northwood Park.'

'Carl Gratty, Stoke-on-Trent Pride committee member, said

they were delighted with the high turnout on a weekend which also saw Party in the Park, Junction 16, and Port Vale's first game of the season.

'We're extremely pleased with how it all went, and it's a brilliant turnout considering that we had so many other events taking place,' he said. 'We had the biggest number of stalls and acts we've ever had, and we listened and learned a lot



from last year to put on a great show for all the family.'

GET ALL THE LATEST NEWS AS IT HAPPENS AT [MIDLANDSZONE.CO.UK](http://MIDLANDSZONE.CO.UK)

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# THE VIRAL ROUND-UP

Here's what we've been looking at online...

We all do it - spend hours on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Often, we're distracted from what we should be doing by cat videos and funny pranks - or by something feelgood that's been shared so much on the net it's officially classed as 'viral'. Well, here are some of Midlands Zone's favourites from the past month!

## WATCH THIS! The best videos on the net...



Alaska's #IceBucketChallenge

The past month has seen the Internet go wild for the #IceBucketChallenge. In fact, you've probably done it yourself; we've done it! But by far our favourite is RuPaul star Alaska Thunderfuck - she does it with sass and style! Watch it here: [youtu.be/12q8WOYSLA](http://youtu.be/12q8WOYSLA)



Gay son's wedding speech

We love a good wedding here at Midlands Zone, so as soon as we saw this gay son doing a speech at his mum's wedding, we knew it would be a hit! It's heartwarming and hilarious, just like a good speech should be! Check it out! [youtu.be/pnsEx7zbexM](http://youtu.be/pnsEx7zbexM)

## George Takei answers stupid questions about gays!



### Why do gay dudes have that 'gay tone'?

Openly gay Star Trek icon George Takei helps out the silly people of Twitter by answering a number of stupid questions aimed at gay people and gay culture. The nine questions, over on the often-hilarious website BuzzFeed, include such 'queer-les' as, "Why do gay dudes have that 'gay tone'?", "Why do gay guys always look so soulless in pictures?", and

"Why do gay dudes like being flight attendants so much?"

Head over to the link below to find out his amazing responses, delightfully presented on cards for all to see!

For more hilarity from George, follow him on Twitter too (@GeorgeTakei).

<http://bzfd.it/1vSQE82>

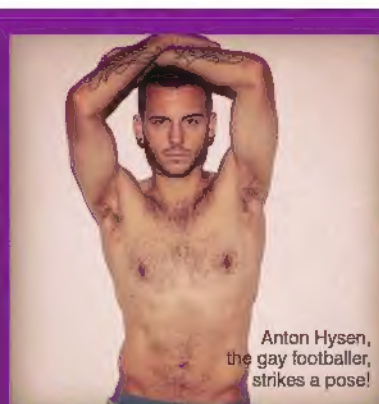
## SNAP HAPPY! Our favourites from Instagram...



Sexy S Club Junior's star Aaron Renfree sunbathes



Madonna shares a vintage snap



Anton Hysen, the gay footballer, strikes a pose!



**Welcome  
Keele &  
Staffordshire  
Students!**

Staffordshire and **NHS**  
Stoke on Trent Partnership  
NHS Trust



@GayLifeNStaffs



GayLife  
Staffordshire Stoke

# AT YOUR UNIVERSITY

Gaylife is your sexual health and lifestyle support service.

## Gay and Bisexual Men's Drop In:

Relax and  
socialise with  
others in a  
comfortable, safe  
environment.

Call **0300 123  
0970** for more  
information.

## Cobridge Community Health Centre:

Here you can find an  
integrated sexual health  
clinic which provides  
contraception and a full  
GUM service where you  
can get tested for STI's.  
Walk in clinics and  
appointments are  
available. Call us for more  
information on  
**0300 7900 165**

## Outreach Team:

Our team regularly visit your  
university and LGBT venues.

See the team for:

- Free condoms and lube.
- Information on local  
services.
- Testing for chlamydia.
- Information about STIs.

Look out for our staff who  
will be wearing Gaylife or  
Sexual Health Team polo  
shirts.

*Don't forget to speak to your  
SU about LGBT societies*



# CULTURE CLUBBING

Three decades after hitting the big time, Boy George and Culture Club have reunited to release a new album and head out on tour. The Karma Chameleon stars will be hitting the Midlands in December, delighting fans both young and old with a blend of new and classic material. Boy George here chats to Midlands Zone's Ryan Humphreys about the new tour, his DJ career, and how gay culture has changed since he shot to stardom...

**Let's start way back in the mists of time. Was a career in music something you'd always wanted?**

Absolutely. As soon as I discovered records, I was listening to everything – the 1930s jazz of Becky Smith and Diana Washington, pop stuff, Irish rebel songs, showband tunes. I was obsessed from a very early age. I used to sing a lot when I was a kid; I was always performing. My mum used to describe me as theatrical. I was always drawn towards music, it's something that's always been hugely important to me. In a way, it's been the one constant in my life since I was a kid. It still excites me.

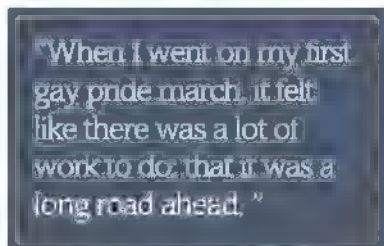
**You've been in the music industry for a fair number of years now. How would you say it's changed since releasing your debut album with Culture Club back in 1982?**

I probably haven't been in the music industry since 1987. I've been DJing and involved in dance culture. I haven't had a record deal since 1987, so that was when I officially left. I became a DJ because I'd had enough of record companies, so decided to become independent. I do feel very much like I'm not in the music business – although I'm about to re-enter it from a more independent point of view. But it's certainly changed; the industry has devalued music. Because of downloads and the fact that so many people are making music, there's a different kind of attitude towards it. I sometimes feel like we need a cull. Get rid of all the rubbish! They're all making the same record. When we started, we wanted to change the world and people's attitudes, now it's like, 'Give me the fur coat. I want to buy my mum a house!'. The X Factor thing has really permeated pop culture, artists don't know why they want to do it anymore. There's a formula now and people stick to it. It's more of a business now – more so than it's ever been.

**In terms of your work, how have your influences changed over time?**

They haven't. I've always been a punk and a glam rocker. Those things still inform pretty much everything I do. Bowie, Vivienne Westwood, Marc Bolan. All of my friends, we have very similar reference points, whether it's fashion, pop, or even the new things that excite me now. Usually they're things that not many people know about. For example, my favourite pop star at the moment is called Chrysteene. She's a kind of drag performance artist from America who looks a bit like a zombie. She's got a great track called African Mayonnaise. Only a few people know about her – she's the kind of popstar that I like!

**You mentioned just now about fashion. You're always quite 'out there' when it comes to that...**



I'm quite anti-fashion. I just do my own thing. If you're fashionable, you wear designer clothes and people's names. In a way you wear money. Someone like Victoria Beckham is a good example. She wears money; expensive clothes that say 'Look how much money I've got. I'm a bit more Oyster Card. You'll find me in an Oxfam shop more often than not. I love designer clothes, don't get me wrong, but I like to mix it with stuff that I find or have created.

**What's been the biggest highlight of your career?**

I hope it's still to come! There have been many, so it's quite hard to narrow it down to one thing. Being given the opportunity to do what I love and get paid for it, I suppose. That's just bonkers. I suppose my career has been a gift. In the last few years, I've gone back through it with a bit more respect, really. I'm excited by what I'm doing now – it feels like now is the most exciting time.

**What do you enjoy most about DJing?**

It's always changing. The dance world is always progressing and moving forward. At the moment, there's this massive 'pop dance' thing with EDM, and I'm a traditional house DJ, so in a way the house DJs are up and coming again. The young kids who've gotten into EDM will start exploring the genre more, and start realising there's a traditional house sound. It's almost like we're rediscovering house music again. People like Disclosure and Second City are making records exactly like the ones we played in the late '80s and early '90s. There's a re-education going on. I actually do a monthly podcast called Club Culture, which is free on iTunes, people can check that out and see what I play. It's quite educational, because a lot of people don't know what I play. They probably think I just play Karma Chameleon!

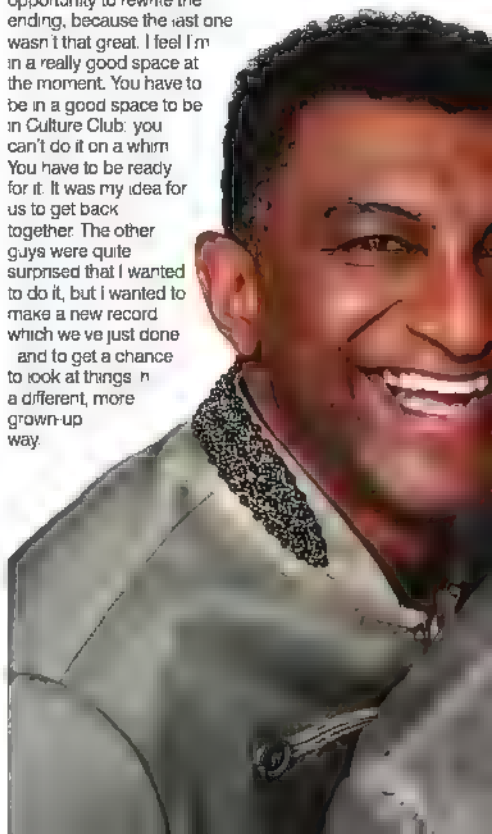
**You had great success with your musical, Taboo. Are there any plans to bring it back?**

Yeah, we've rewritten Taboo and we've done a new script. It's much more hard-hitting and truthful. We're in discussions with different people about doing a workshop early next year, where we'll try out the new script. There's interest in a

few foreign countries to take the show; particularly Australia, because Lee Bowry features quite heavily, which is amazing. We're very keen to revive it. Musicals are odd things because you can go back and rewrite them – you can't really do that with an album. With a musical, you have the opportunity to go back to it and say 'Let's try this'. It's quite a fluid entity, in a funny kind of way.

**You've announced a new eleven-date Culture Club tour, taking place later this year. It's been over 15 years since you last performed together, so what made you feel the time was right?**

We did do a gig in Australia a couple of years ago, which is one of the reasons that I thought 'Let's do this again', because I thought we were really good. Working with them has been a re-education. I had a chance to re-evaluate what we are and what we mean to people. When we make music together it's very unique, it's very different to what I do. There's something about the way Roy chooses the chords that affects the way I write. Culture Club has its own peculiar alchemy. One of the reasons for the reunion is because it was an opportunity to rewrite the ending, because the last one wasn't that great. I feel I'm in a really good space at the moment. You have to be in a good space to be in Culture Club: you can't do it on a whim. You have to be ready for it. It was my idea for us to get back together. The other guys were quite surprised that I wanted to do it, but I wanted to make a new record which we've just done – and to get a chance to look at things in a different, more grown-up way.



# WITH BOY GEORGE

**What can fans expect from your eleven-date tour?**

It's going to be a popastic show. Obviously there are going to be a lot of our classic songs. We'll hand-pick stuff from the albums, maybe stuff we've not done before. Whenever you ask the fans what they want you to play, it's always the most random stuff, and you think 'Really?! How bizarre!' We'll try and incorporate some of that and a few new things too. We'll hopefully be giving the fans what they want.

**Will they be treated to some of your solo material too?**

We usually do Everything I Own, because that was a big hit. It depends on what works and how open-minded the band are to it. It's a Culture Club show, after all. I always do Culture Club songs in my solo shows, but I won't be upset if they don't do my songs in our show. I won't stamp my feet. We've got enough of our own songs, after all.

**Your new Culture Club album is released early next year. What direction are you taking that?**

Every direction. It's the most eclectic, bonkers record we've ever made. It covers everything from traditional reggae to ska and a bit of rock.

There are some gorgeous ballads on there too. We're absolutely wearing our influences on our sleeves with this record. Everything from Roxy Music to Duran Duran. We really had fun with it, we didn't shy away from it. It sounds like Culture Club, but with a more confident and relaxed approach.

**Have you got any plans for any new solo material?**

I've just done a dub version of my album, This Is What I Do. I've literally re-recorded a whole album. I've done duets with Sinéad O'Connor and a few others. I'm going to be doing lots of new music with different people. It's a great time to be creative. There's no pressure. I'm going to be doing lots. Not for any particular reason, just because I want to and I love it.

**You've obviously got a very big gay following. When you first started in the music industry back in the late-'70s and early-'80s, could you ever have imagined there would be such a significant advancement in LGBT rights as the one we've seen?**

I don't know really; so many things have happened to affect gay culture. In the '70s, when I went on my first gay pride march, it felt like there was a lot of work to do, that it was a long road ahead. There was a halcyon period in the late-

'70s and then AIDS happened. It certainly hasn't been plain sailing. As people, gays are amazingly resilient; we're incredible in terms of what we can put up with and tolerate. Through the whole AIDS epidemic, I was amazed by people's passion and compassion. I was blown away by what people were doing and how hard people were working to help. I think there's so much to be proud of. People aren't really any less racist or homophobic, but what happens is people become empowered. Black people said, 'We're not going to put up with this', and that's what gay people said too. By becoming proud, you affect change. Having said that, there are a lot of places in the world where change still needs to happen. Africa, India, Eastern Europe. There are still places where people aren't free and don't have the basic rights that we have here. We might argue for equal marriage and adoption, but there are people across the world still having to hide. It's not an equal world and there's plenty of work still to be done.

Culture Club bring their tour to the Midlands on Sat 6 (Nottingham) and Fri 12 (Birmingham) December.





# HOW GAY IS YOUR UNI?

Each year, gay charity Stonewall surveys every university in the UK to see how gay-friendly they are in terms of their students. We've packed this information into the handy chart below, to show you how your uni stacks up against other Midlands universities.

Using a ten-point checklist, Stonewall compiled the information from university and student union websites, monitoring everything from bullying policies and welfare support through to career advice and LGBT groups.

The chart below makes for some interesting reading and shows just how far some universities still have to go to achieve complete equality for their LGBT students.

1



UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Hitting the top spot in this year's 'How gay is your uni?' checklist is the University of Birmingham, scoring an impressive 9 out of 10. The only thing keeping it from a 'perfect 10' is the lack of an LGBT bullying policy and training scheme.

The university provides students with a great LGBTQ Society, offering regular social events and fantastic links to support services.

Birmingham's gay scene is the biggest in the Midlands and features many great bars and clubs for everyone to enjoy. It's also home to one of the UK's biggest annual Pride events.

3



STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY

Turning up in third place this year is Staffordshire University, located in Stoke-on-Trent. The university features courses with links to industry, perhaps a reflection of its pottery-based past. Racking up an 8 out of 10 in the checklist, the uni was let down by a lack of LGBT Staff Network and engagement with the wider community.

The university's LGBT Society runs regular social events for its members, including nights out on Stoke's intimate gay scene. Each year, the city hosts Stoke Pride, a popular community event.

2



UNIVERSITY OF DERBY

The University of Derby is this year's runner-up, scoring 9 out of 10 in the checklist below. Only student sexual orientation monitoring kept it from grabbing top marks.

The university features an LGBT+ society (with the F standing for Friends), providing a great mix of regular social events and welfare support for its members. The society's committee members work closely with the city's Derbyshire Friends, a support service for the local LGBT community. Derby's gay scene is small, but has a good mix of pubs and clubs, with Curzons being a popular haunt on a night out.

## How does your uni stack up against the rest?

Checklist	Rank	Birmingham	Derby	Staffordshire	Warwick	Keele	Nottingham	Nott. Trent	Wolverhampton	Aston	Leicester	Loughborough	Coventry	De Montfort	Worcester	Birmingham City	Harper Adams	Lincoln	Newman	Northampton	College of Birm.
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
LGBT bullying policy and training		X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Student sexual orientation monitoring		✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X
Explicit welfare support and info		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X
Society for LGBT students		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓
Events for LGBT students		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X
Consultation with LGBT students		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓
Career advice for LGBT students		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X
LGBT Staff Network		✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	X
Stonewall Diversity Champion		✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Engagement with the wider community		✓	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Total Score</b>		9	9	8	8	7	6	6	6	5	5	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	2	2	2

# SUMMER OF PRIDE

8 PAGE

GUIDE TO LGBT EVENTS



## INCLUDES:

WOLVES PRIDE

DERBY PRIDE

PINK PICNIC

GAY FAMILY PRIDE

STONE ON TRENT PRIDE

WALSALL PRIDE



# Wolves Pride celebrates LGBT life in the Black Country

**Saturday 27 September**

**Fold Street,  
Wolverhampton**

[www.wolvespride.co.uk](http://www.wolvespride.co.uk)

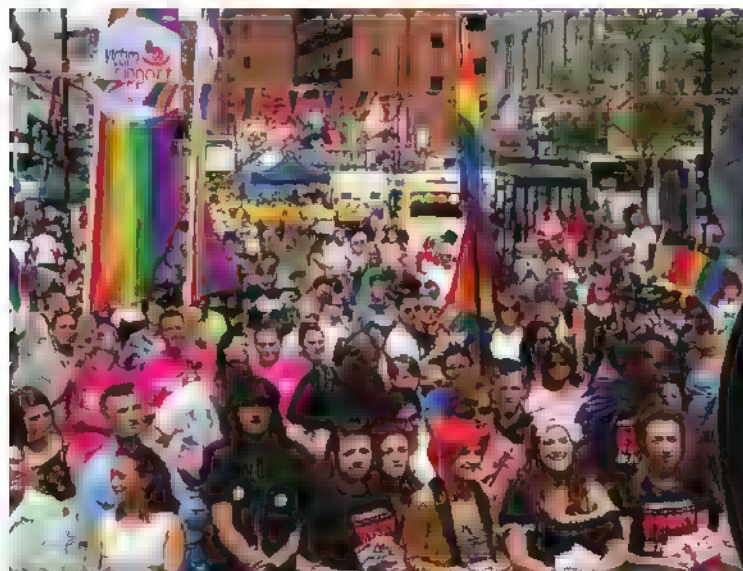
The third annual Pride festival for Wolverhampton and the Black Country takes place this month, and is set to be bigger and better than ever before!

The event, which is organised by the LGBT Network Wolverhampton, is being held on Saturday 27 September. The event kicks off at 1pm with a bright and colourful carnival parade through the streets of Wolverhampton, led by LGBT & Human Rights campaigner Peter Tatchell. The parade will lead Pride-goers to the main arena by 2pm.

After the event has been officially opened by the city's Mayor, there's a huge line-up of entertainment to enjoy throughout the rest of the day. Confirmed artists appearing at Wolves Pride include lesbian X Factor star and singer-songwriter Lucy Spraggan and Jenny Jones from BBC's The Voice. There's also a great line-up of cabaret acts strutting their stuff, including Sandra, Cassidy Connors and Glitter Lips.

It's going to be a fantastic day out for all the family, so grab your tickets now!

**Wolves Pride takes place on Saturday 27 September in Fold Street, Wolverhampton. Visit [www.wolvespride.co.uk](http://www.wolvespride.co.uk) for tickets and info.**





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Stonewall  
UNIVERSITY HAMPTON



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COMMUNITY AREA & MUCH MORE

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27TH SEPTEMBER**  
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LUCY SPRAGGAN



KELLY



LOVE MEATS



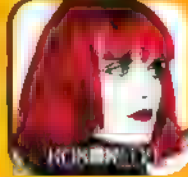
THE VAMPS



THE WANTED



THE SATURDAYS



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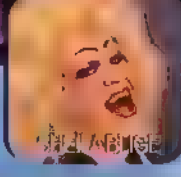
THE SATURDAYS



THE SATURDAYS



THE SATURDAYS



THE SATURDAYS



# Kelly Llorenna and Angie Brown to headline **Out Derby LGBT**

**Sat 13 September**

Friary Street,  
Derby

[facebook.com/OutDerbyLGBT](https://facebook.com/OutDerbyLGBT)

A new, rebranded Pride event for Derby is set to hit the city later next month, featuring a great line-up of entertainment including gay scene favourites Kelly Llorenna and Angie Brown.

The event, held on Friary Street on Saturday 13 September starts at noon and also features performances from Rozalla, Hazell Dean and Kelly Wilde. Out Derby LGBT is a free event and also features a Children's Area as well as information and food stalls.

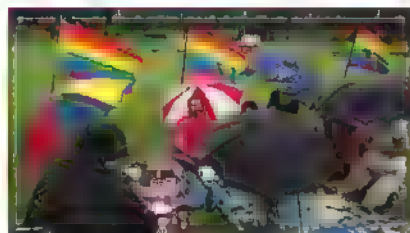


# Sausage rolls and sandwiches at **Shrewsbury Pink Picnic**

Despite the wet weather, it didn't deter a group from Shrewsbury's LGBT community meeting up for the annual Shrewsbury Pink Picnic last month.

Hosted in the stunning and picturesque Quarry in the heart of Shropshire's county town, attendees enjoyed a wealth of food and drink, as well as fun and games.

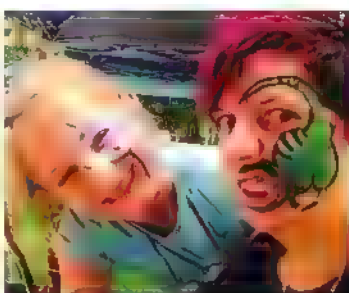
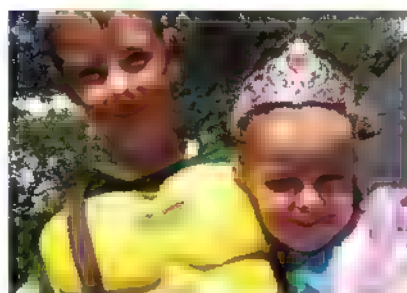
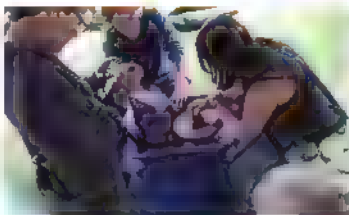
Even though there were spells of rain, the event was great fun for all involved.



# Same-sex parents and their kids celebrate at **Gay Family Pride**

Gay Family Pride returned to the Midlands last month, providing a great weekend of fun and games for families with same-sex parents (and their kids too, of course)!

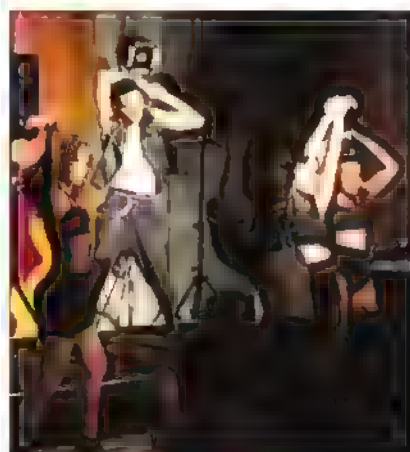
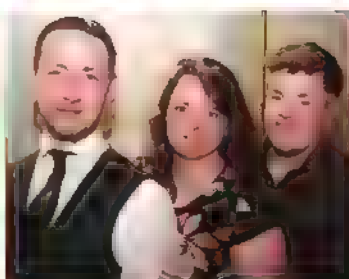
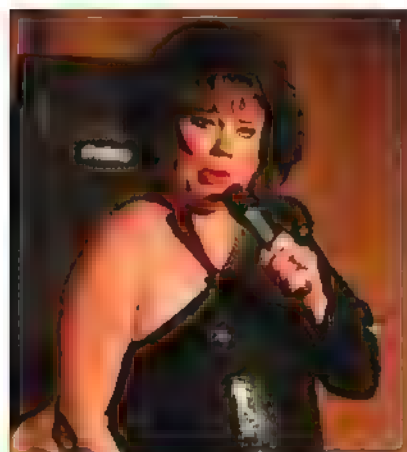
Getting more and more popular each year, there's something for everyone at the event, and the children certainly won't get bored. There's many activities to be seen and done, including face painting, a petting zoo and a climbing wall.



# A party with Pride and Style at **Leicester Pride Ball**

Last month saw the folks over at Leicester Pride host the annual Leicester Pride Ball, all in an effort to raise funds for the festival, which takes place this month, on Saturday 6 September.

Guests were treated to a delicious three course meal and entertainment from popular drag queen, Champagne Shirley as well as a host of other local talent, including Britain's Got Talent stars, Addict Initiative. The event raised over £800.



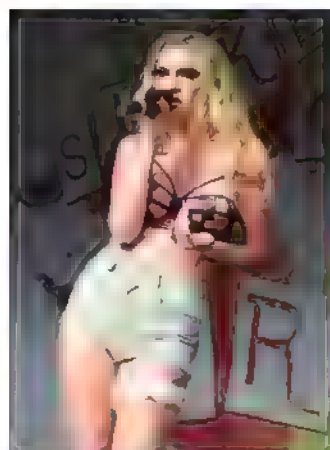
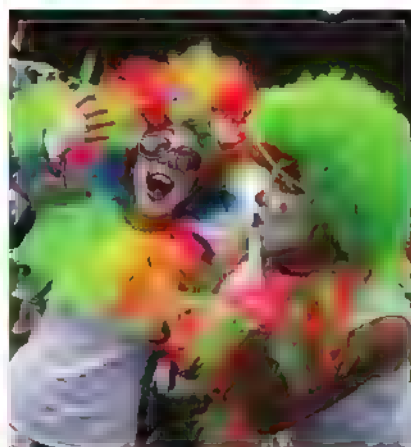
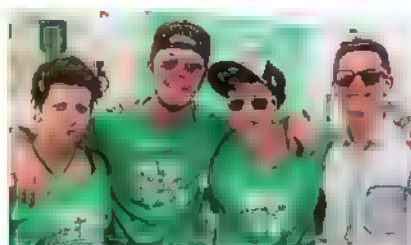


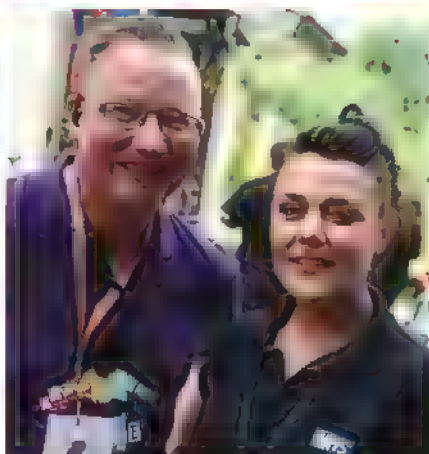
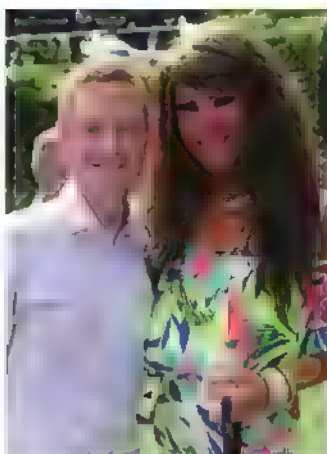
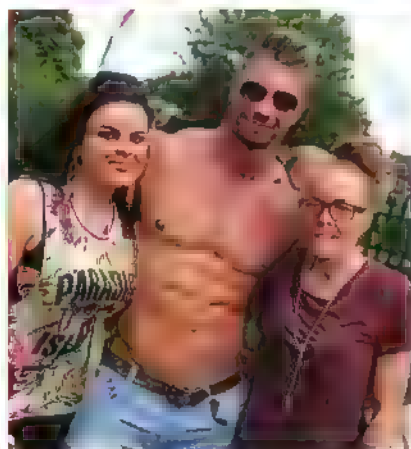
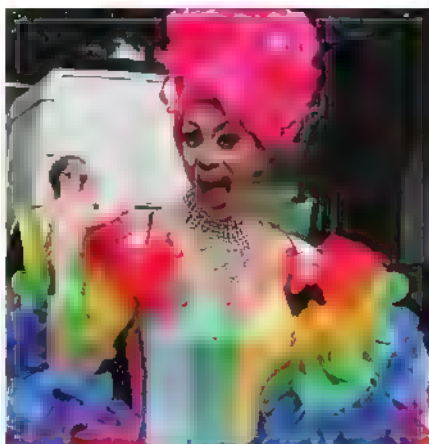
# Stoke-on-Trent Pride sees thousands party the gay way!

Thousands of Stokies headed to Northwood Park in Hanley last month for the fun-filled Stoke-on-Trent Pride festival.

There was plenty to see and do throughout the day, as well as an impressive line-up of entertainment on the main stage, with gay favourites Kelly Wilde, Kitty Brucknell and Amelia Lily all featuring.

We're already looking forward to 2015!



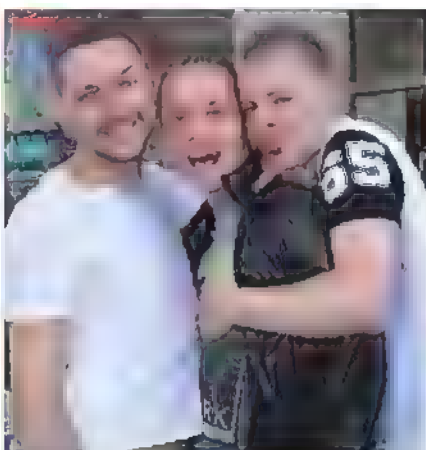
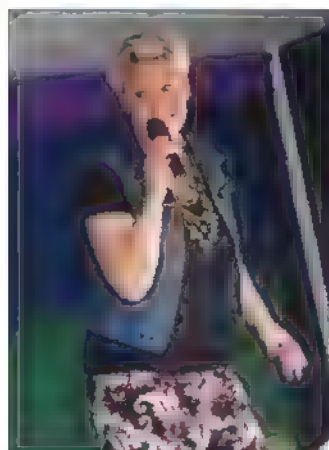
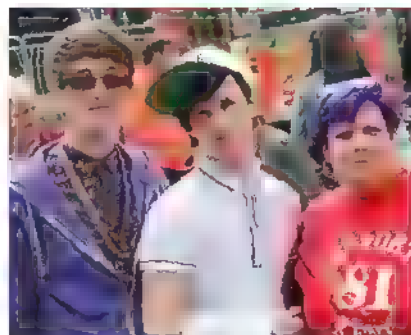
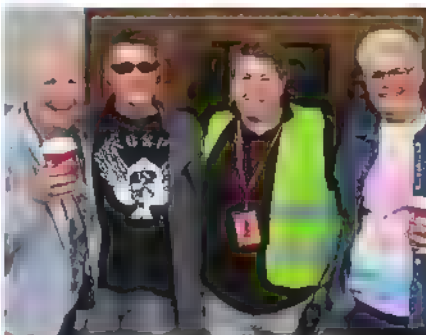
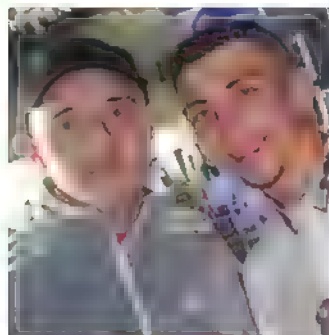
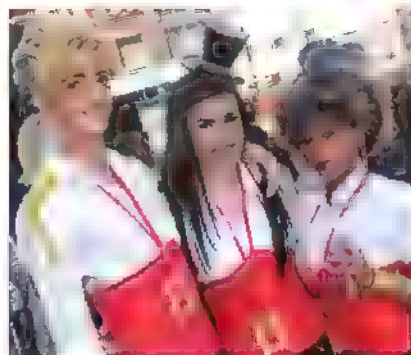
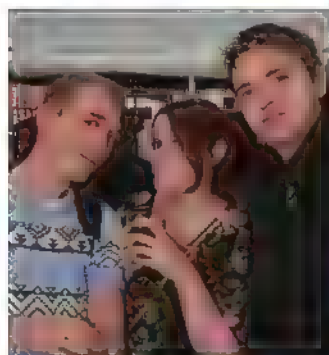
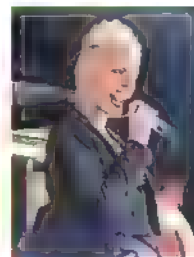




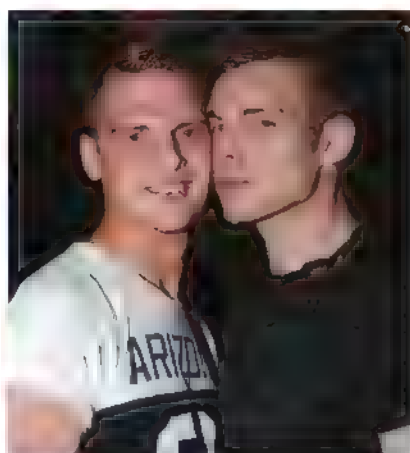
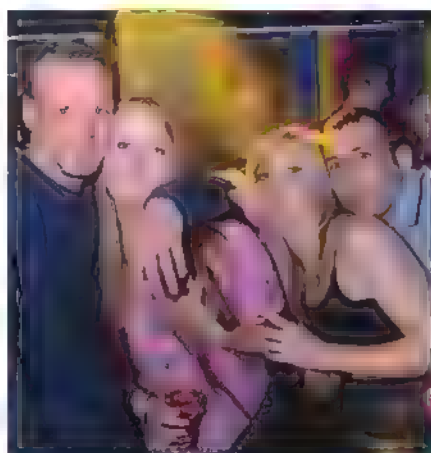
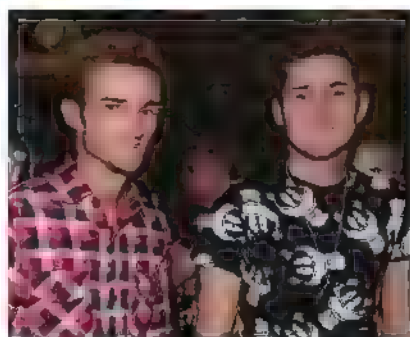
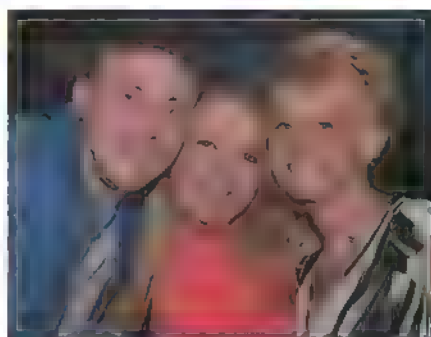
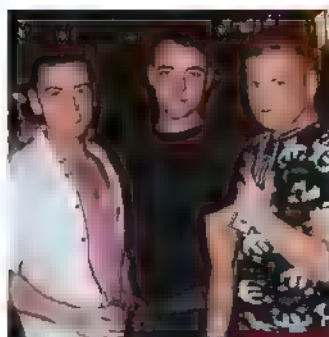
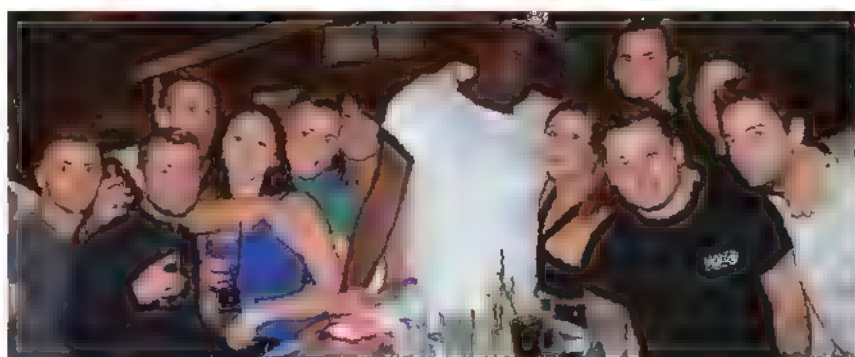
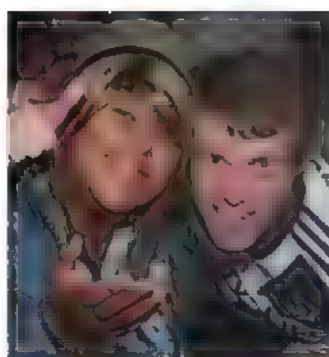
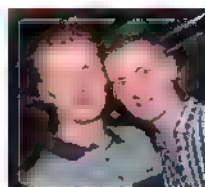
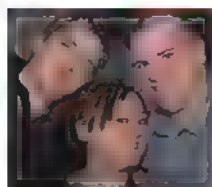
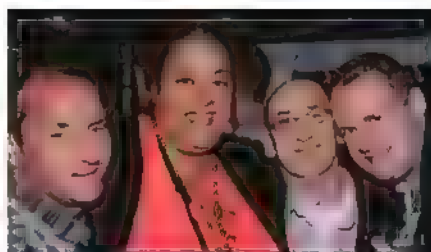
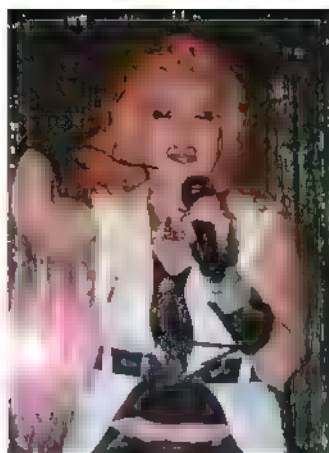
# Third annual **Walsall Pride** takes the town by storm!

Returning for a third year on the Pride festivals calendar, Walsall Pride took place outside the town's New Art Gallery and attracted hundreds of people

The event was headlined by S Club 5 Jo O'Meara and X Factor stars Diva Fever, with a cabaret arena also featuring. The Pride party then carried on well into the night at local gay venues The Red Lion and The Lion Bar & Club



Pictures by Kris Green





# GET YOUR GEEK ON!



02



03



04



05



**We at Midlands Zone love, love, love technology! So here's our top picks this month - from wearable technology, mobile phones, Bluetooth speakers to the latest and greatest mobile apps. Get your geek on!**

#### 01 Nokia Lumia 635

The Nokia Lumia 635 is bright and colourful and runs on the latest Windows Phone 8.1 operating system. It's one of the fastest phones around, making your internet surfing, message checking and gaming a breeze! With a crisp camera and support for up to 128GB of storage, you can take selfies until your heart is content.

**From FREE**  
[www.phnones4u.co.uk](http://www.phnones4u.co.uk)

#### 02 VSCO Cam

VSCO Cam is the most professional image editing app available for both iOS and Android. Utilising innovative processing technology, it yields great results and superb-looking photos.

**FREE**  
iTunes App Store & Google Play

#### 03 Hyperlapse from Instagram

Use Hyperlapse to create amazing time-lapse videos

even when you're moving. The stabilisation technology makes your videos feel cinematic, and you can speed them up to 12 times faster!

**FREE**  
iTunes App Store

#### 04 LG G Watch

The future of wearable tech is here! Integrating closely with your Android phone, the LG G Watch displays notifications from your smartphone, including messages, phone calls, emails and Facebook. You

can even search Google from it!

**£159**  
[play.google.com](http://play.google.com)

#### 05 Logitech UE Boom

Start the party anywhere and keep it going for hours. The Ultimate Ears Boom speaker creates 360-degree sound wherever it goes. Dual 40mm drivers reveal more detail in your music, and streaming is simple thanks to Bluetooth.

**£170**  
[www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com)

Someone  
who's recently  
got HIV is  
**VERY**  
INFECTIOUS  
and won't know

*That's  
why I use  
condoms*

So if a guy tells you he is  
HIV negative, he could be wrong.



GET YOUR FREE

StartsWithMe.org.uk



IT STARTS  
**WITH**  
**ME**

© 2010 Terrence Higgins Trust. All rights reserved. HIV is a virus that can be passed on through sex, blood and needles. It can be treated but not cured. For more information, visit StartsWithMe.org.uk



# KEEPING IT BRIEF

Everybody loves a new pair of pants, and this month, we're celebrating the classic brief... Here's our favourite picks!

01



02



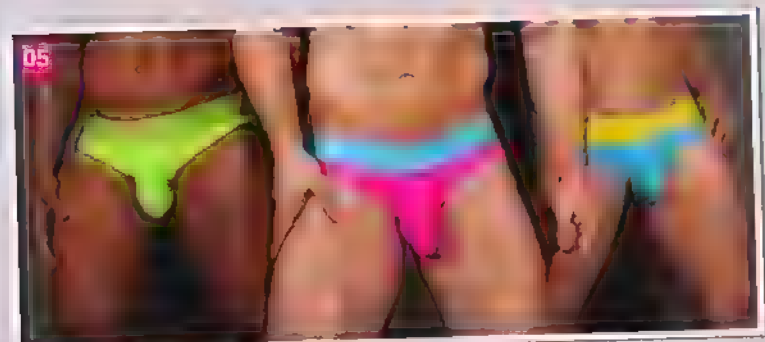
03



04



05



06



## 01 C-in2 Grip Profile

The Grip collection boosts focus, performance and endurance by providing high performance at maximum comfort in basic and seasonal colors.

£25.00  
c-in2.com

## 02 aussieBum Trek

This underwear is made from a unique, air-rated, nylon supplex yarn making it super smooth

while it moulds to your body. Blue, green and grey colourways are available in both brief and hipster.

£17.00  
aussiebum.com

## 03 CR7 Cristiano Ronaldo Sports Brief

This brief has a low rise cut and features contrasting blue panels of fabric divided by white highlight binding.

£17.00  
bangandstrike.com

## 04 Addicted 191 Mesh Brief

Low cut and sexy brief made of finest combination of fabrics. The pouch is covered by cotton and rest of the brief made of elastic mesh.

£25.00  
clonezone.co.uk

## 05 Sukrew Full Brief

Expertly cut to comfortably enhance your package, with a sexy high rise on the hip. An everyday essential, from

our Classic collection

£25.00  
sukrew.com

## 06 Andrew Christian Almost Naked Brief

Featuring color contrast trim and neon stitching for a pop of color, the waistband is sporty and will reduce the appearance of that waistline.

£25.00  
andrewchristian.com

# NEW RANGES



**PISTOL PETE**

**COLT**

**TITANMEN**

**BIKE BIKE**

**CZ**  
clonezone

**NOW INSTORE & ONLINE**

**CZ**  
clonezone

[www.clonezone.co.uk](http://www.clonezone.co.uk)

Manchester - 36 - 38 Sackville Street, M1 3WA

Birmingham - 84 Hurst Street, B5 4TD

Soho - 35 Old Compton Street, London W1D 5JX

Earls Court - 266 Old Brompton Road, London SW5 9HR

FREE  
CLICK &  
COLLECT

**NOW AVAILABLE IN**  
SOHO • EARLS COURT • MANCHESTER • BIRMINGHAM





01

# WHITE OUT



02

03



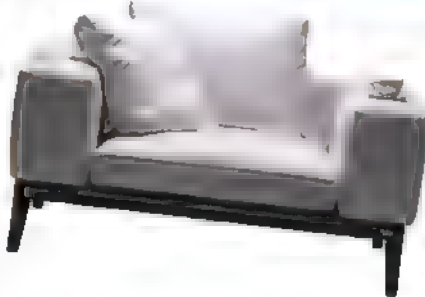
04



05



06



**01 Roma White Bed**  
The Roma has a bold design which commands attention in any bedroom. Its sumptuous curves make it the perfect contemporary bed to be the centre-piece of any modern bedroom. The bed incorporates sprung slats to ensure maximum comfort and durability. Nightstands and mat-

trass are optional, extras  
**£749**  
[www.livngitup.co.uk](http://www.livngitup.co.uk)

**02 Lichen Modular Sideboard**  
Design Innovation Denzer's aim was to create shelving that you don't need a toolbox to customise. This storage sideboard is just that and more. Design your own storage

set-up: the panels move to create different configurations and hide or reveal the contents of your shelves. Each part of these shelves is light but still hardwearing, from the powder-coated steel panels to the oak veneer shelving.  
**£299**  
[www.made.com](http://www.made.com)  
**03 Luigi Table Lamp**

Fluted column of twisted metal with a flared square shade.  
**£113**  
[www.in-spaces.com](http://www.in-spaces.com)

**04 Newport White Washed Cabinet**  
A delightful white-washed furniture collection with a nautical feel. The Newport cabinet features three drawers and three base doors for ample

storage. Perfect for a beach front home study or living room.  
**£350**  
[www.alexanderand-pearl.co.uk](http://www.alexanderand-pearl.co.uk)

**05 Allison Three-Seat Sofa**  
The Allison sofa comprises beautifully tapered arms, elegant chrome legs and linear styling to bring you a timeless piece of mod-

ern designer furniture.  
**£1536.50**  
[www.camerich.co.uk](http://www.camerich.co.uk)

**06 Moodie Armchair**  
Contemporary Asian design features boxy arms and elongated wooden legs, showcasing a dramatic and elegant look.  
**£11690**  
[www.camerich.co.uk](http://www.camerich.co.uk)

# GET YOUR FREE COPY DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR EVERY MONTH



**...you just pay for the postage  
and packing!**

Yes, we know you're wondering what the catch is

Well, there isn't one!

We've ripped up our subscription rates so that more  
of you can get the No.1 gay magazine in the Midlands  
delivered direct to your front door every month

And at just £2 an issue to cover the postage and packing  
there's never been a better time to get it delivered!

**It's easy - just call our  
Subscription Hotline  
on 01743 281714**

**Simply pay the postage and packing cost  
of £2 per Issue by debit or credit card!**



WIN!

# WIN! A Nokia Lumia 635!

Midlands Zone has teamed up with mobile phone superbrand Nokia to give one lucky reader the chance to win a fantastic Nokia Lumia 635!

Bright and bold in this season's hottest colours, the Lumia 635 packs unexpected power. Running on the very latest Windows Phone 8.1 operating system, the Lumia 635 brims with smart features, making it one of the fastest and easiest phones around. Whether it's the intuitive Word Flow keyboard, which'll have you composing messages in a matter of seconds, or the 4G connectivity for rapid app downloads and online streaming, the Lumia 635 is everything you need - faster.

And it really is all you need, with Nokia MixRadio's free music streaming service, support for expandable memory up to 128GB using a microSD card, the full Microsoft Office suite, a full, free, onboard Sat Nav (for which you can download maps in advance, and then use offline), a crisp 5MP camera and, of course, easy access to the Windows Phone Store - where you'll find

an abundance of apps to add to those that come pre-installed, such as Skype and Vine. Add to all of that a sleek look, with replaceable shells, Live Tiles - and now the option to customise them with a photo background - and the experience is more personal than ever. The Lumia 635 makes it quicker and easier for people to connect with the things they love, and exemplifies the combination of award-winning design and experiences that the Lumia family is renowned for.

To be in with a chance of winning, visit [www.midlandszone.co.uk](http://www.midlandszone.co.uk) and answer the following question:

Which famous mobile phone game was a big hit on Nokia devices ~~10~~ years gone by?

- A) Snake
- B) Spider
- C) Beetle

Competition closes on Wednesday 24 September 2014.



Visit [www.midlandszone.co.uk](http://www.midlandszone.co.uk) to enter!



## SHROPSHIRE RAINBOW FILM FESTIVAL

## Fri 17 - Sun 19 October 2014

[www.rainbowfilmfestival.org.uk](http://www.rainbowfilmfestival.org.uk)



SPECIAL OFFER: BOOK 3 FILMS GET 5TH FREE (NOT ONLINE BOOKING)  
 Saturday and Sunday evening screenings £7/£6.50 (incl. booking) £8/£7.50 (incl. booking)

### OMH THE OLD MARKET HALL

**Friday 17th  
October, 8.00pm**

**Two Girls  
Against The Rain  
Who's Afraid Of  
Vagina Wolf**

**Saturday 18th  
October, 1.00pm**

**Bette Bourne - It  
Goes With  
The Shoes**

**plus Q&A with Bette!**

**Saturday 18th  
October, 4.30pm**

**Some Ground  
To Stand On**

**plus Q&A with Jane Traill  
followed by  
No Secrets Anymore**

**Saturday 18th  
October, 8.00pm**

**Patrik, Age 1.5**

**Sunday 19th  
October, 1.30pm**

**The Children's  
Hour (aka The  
Loudest Whisper)**

**Sunday 19th  
October, 4.30pm**

**I Am A Woman Now**

**Sunday 19th  
October, 6.30pm**

**Free Fall**

### SATURDAY SHORTS THE GATEWAY

Chester Street,  
Shrewsbury, 01743 355159

**18th Oct, 10am**

- Happy Endings
- The Fruit Song
- PR (Public Relations)
- Another Woman's Scent
- Sex, Medicated, Rock-n-Roll
- June • Moke
- Du Tone - Darkness
- Lucky Fares
- Homophobia Harms You  
And Everyone Around You

### SUNDAY SHORTS THE HIVE

5 Belmont Street,  
Shrewsbury, 01743 234970

**19th Oct, 11am**

- Spankin
- Mark Bunyan: Very  
Nearly Almost Famous
- Change Over Time
- Another Way Out
- Portrait Of A Queen
- Into The Streets
- The Cost Of Gender

30 [www.midlandszone.co.uk](http://www.midlandszone.co.uk)

WHAT'S ON IN YOUR LOCAL GAY VENUES

# SCENE

SEPTEMBER 2014



## BEARBRUM

A great night out for Bears, their friends and admirers!

# DETOX

THE 'BOY IS A BOTTOM' AND 'BOY IS A BOTTOM' STAR HITS BIRMINGHAM

## LESBION ONLY NIGHT

10pm - 12am  
12pm - 1am  
12am - 2am

## LA VOIX

10pm - 12am  
12pm - 1am  
12am - 2am

## GLAMOUR NIGHT

10pm - 12am  
12pm - 1am  
12am - 2am



EVERY MONDAY

# Fabulous

**THE BIGGEST GAY  
MONDAY NIGHT  
IN THE MIDLANDS!**

FREE ENTRY  
B4 11PM

DRINKS FROM £1  
9PM-3AM!

C:21

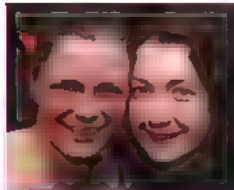
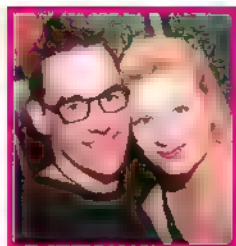
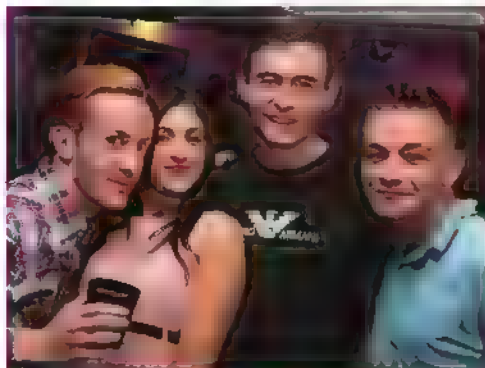
MONDAY 6 OCTOBER  
**THE DRAG  
WITH NO  
NAME**

MONDAY 3 NOVEMBER  
**SANDRA**  
THE WHORE OF HAMPSTEAD HEATH

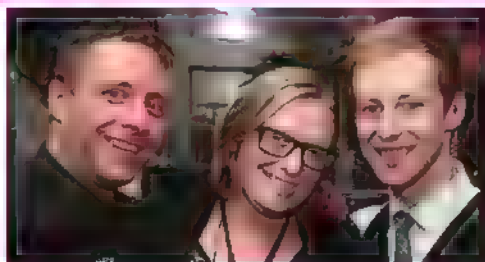
# A Fabulous time to be had at C:21!

Monday nights out in Shrewsbury are a big affair, with great drinks offers bringing in the crowds.

Pop down to C:21 bar & nightclub for Fabulous, a night boasting great music and a fantastic atmosphere. And if you pop down on the first Monday of the month, they'll even treat you to live cabaret, featuring some of the finest acts on the circuit.



More great photos on **facebook**  
[facebook.com/midlandszone.co.uk/](https://www.facebook.com/midlandszone.co.uk/)



## VICKY JACKSON

Punters at Shrewsbury's C:21 bar & nightclub enjoy a good cabaret. The first Monday of the month sees some of the UK's finest acts take to the stage at the venue. This month (Monday 1 September) sees Vicky Jackson return, this time as 'Do It Like A Dude' singer Jessie J. Vicky's brilliant tribute comes hot on the heels of an announcement by the real Jessie that she's bringing out a new album! We can't wait to get our hands on it!



### BIRMINGHAM



**2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS** Sunday to Friday All day & night. Wind down after work with a cocktail or two.

**THE LOFT LOUNGE**

**2 FOR £10** Monday to Friday 12-6pm. Delicious new menu.

**SHREWSBURY**

**MINISTRY OF POUND** with DJ Mike Emery from 9pm. Selected drinks £1. Open until 2am.

**WOLVERHAMPTON**



### PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT

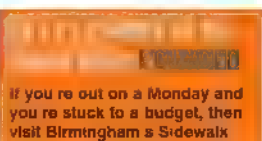
**SHREWSBURY**

If you're looking for something a little different on a Monday night out, then look no further than Play Your Cards Right with Mrs Mills at The Village Inn. There's prizes to be won, along with free drinks!

### PLAY YOUR CARDIN NIGHT

with Mrs Mills and DJ Craig. Cash prizes and free drinks. Happy Hour 12noon-10pm.

**THE VILLAGE INN**



If you're out on a Monday and you're stuck to a budget, then visit Birmingham's Sidewalk bar for a night of £1 drinks!

**POUNDED** Come and get Pounded from 6pm onwards. £1

on selected spirits, £1.50. Jagerbomb, Carling / Strongbow / Sambuca.

**SIDEWALK**

### HUMAN RUSH

£2 entry, drinks from £2. Various DJs.

**NIGHTINALE**

**SHREWSBURY**

### MONDAY NIGHTS

on selected spirits, £1.50. Jagerbomb, Carling / Strongbow / Sambuca.

**BAR JESTER**

**OUTSKIRTS** 1-3am

**SHREWSBURY**

**EQUATOR BAR**

**FABULOUS - Mon 1 SEP - Cabaret** with Vicky Jackson as Jessie J. Drinks from just £1.

**C:21, SHREWSBURY**

### THREE FURNACES

**THREE FURNACES, TELFORD**

### CHILL OUT NIGHT

on selected spirits, £1.50. Jagerbomb, Carling / Strongbow / Sambuca.

**THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON**

### DENTED

on selected spirits, £1.50. Jagerbomb, Carling / Strongbow / Sambuca.

**THE FACTORY, STOKE ON TRENT**

### THE MONDAY CLUB

on selected spirits, £1.50. Jagerbomb, Carling / Strongbow / Sambuca.

**GORGEOUS, WOLVERHAMPTON**

### BLIND BOTTLE

on selected spirits, £1.50. Jagerbomb, Carling / Strongbow / Sambuca.

**PINK, STOKE ON TRENT**

**2 TILL 2** Open from 2pm to 2am.

on selected spirits, £1.50. Jagerbomb, Carling / Strongbow / Sambuca.

**THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON**

### DISCO

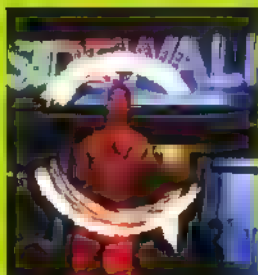
**NEW FORESTERS, NOTTINGHAM**



## TWO MEALS FOR A TENNER

If you're stuck for meal ideas or you've got no food in the house, pop into Birmingham's Sidewalk and take advantage of their cracking 'two meals for a tenner' offer. Sidewalk offers a great menu, including burgers, paninis and steaks. And if you're a bit more health-conscious, you can even enjoy a freshly made salad.

Pop in, grab a seat and take a look at the fantastic menu!



**2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS** - Sunday to Friday. A day & night. Wind down after work with a cocktail or two. **THE LOFT LOUNGE**

**2 FOR £10** Monday to Friday 12-6pm. Delicious new menu. **SIDEWALK**

**MIS-SING KARAOKE** With your host James. Party starts at 9pm till late.

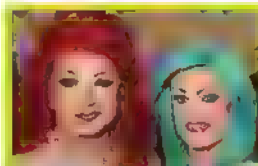
**MISSING BAR**

## DJ JAMES

Every Tuesday sees Birmingham's Missing Bar hosting a night of karaoke. Join DJ James from 9pm till late and blast out some of your favourite songs over the microphone! Whether you can sing or not, it's always good for a laugh!

**TANNY TUESDAY**

with Charlotte and Miss Penny



## TUESDAYS GET TACKY

Miss Penny and Charlotte the Harlotte are on hand every Tuesday at The Village Inn with a night of tacky fun. Join them to win a host of great prizes - from free drinks behind the bar to free admission to The Nighthinge. They'll even belt out a song or two for you!

Songs Games & Prizes. Happy Hour 12noon-10pm.

**THE VILLAGE INN**

**TUNE UP TUESDAY**

Bar Jester

**BAR JESTER**

**CAMP QUIZ** With free buffet. Quiz starts 8.30pm.

**THREE FURNACES, TELFORD**

**DIVERSITY** Week

**VELVET, WORCESTER**

**FLAME** A

**BREWERY TAP, WORCESTER**

**MISS DOLLY MIXTURES**

**THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON**

**THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON**

**THE LION BAR & CLUB, WALSALL**

**2 TILL 2**

**THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON**

**CHILL OUT NIGHT**

**NEW FORESTERS, NOTTINGHAM**

**KARAOKE NIGHT**

**DOVEN CASTLE, LEICESTER**



## BIRMINGHAM

**WILSON BAR**

Rather than heading out for a pint or a double vodka and Coke, why not opt for a cocktail? How about two? Because Sidewalk in Birmingham are offering two gorgeous cocktails for the price of one from their new menu!

**2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS** Shake your tail feathers at Sidewalk's new 2 for 1 cocktail menu.

**SIDEWALK**

**2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS** - Sunday to Friday. A day & night. Wind down after work with a cocktail or two. **THE LOFT LOUNGE**

**2 GOOD 2 MISS** Drinks from just £2 with DJ Mike Emery.

**MISSING BAR**

**KARAOKE** with Charlotte the Harlotte and DJ Deano. Free Shots for all participants. Happy Hour 12noon-8pm.

**THE VILLAGE INN**

**FLAME'S DRINKS AND FREE POOL**



## 2 GOOD 2 MISS

Missing Bar in Birmingham certainly knows how to throw an awesome party, regardless of which day of the week it is! Pop in for a night of top fun, great tunes and cheap drinks in the company of DJ Mike Emery and the rest of the venue's team.

**THE FOX**

**BREWERY TAP, WORCESTER**

**BAR JESTER**

**WEDNESDAY LINE** Line Dancing

**THE WELLINGTON**

## WEST MIDLANDS

**THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON**

**STUDENT CLUB NIGHT**

**DUS**

**THREE FURNACES, TELFORD**



## EAST MIDLANDS

**GAMES NIGHT**

**NEW FORESTERS, NOTTINGHAM**

**KARAOKE** 9pm till late

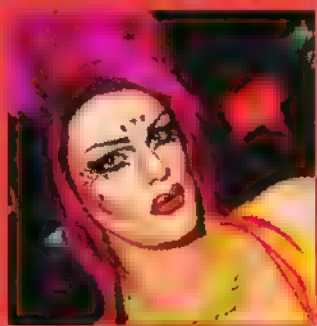
**THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON**

**FLAME**

**NG1, NOTTINGHAM**

## GRAB THE MIC with Charlotte the Harlotte at The Village Inn

If you think you've got a singing voice to rival Beyonce, Ella Goulding or Gary Barlow, then pop along to Birmingham's Village Inn and show it off to Charlotte the Harlotte and DJ Deano. Whilst you may not walk away with a multi-million pound recording contract with Simon Cowell, you can walk away with a sense of pride - well, or embarrassment, depending on how you've done!



**LA VOIX**

Britain's Got Talent semi-finalist La Voix heads back to Birmingham this month with not one, but two shows at popular gay venue Eden!

Sadly, she didn't quite make it through to the finals of the hit ITV talent show - but that means we can keep her all to ourselves here in the Midlands! Catch her live on stage on Thursday 10 and Thurs 24 July.



**BIRMINGHAM**

**2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS** - Sunday to Friday All day & night. Wind down after work with a cocktail or two  
**THE LOFT LOUNGE**

**2 FOR £10** Monday to Friday 12-6pm Delicious new menu  
**SEAWALK**

**I ♥ THE 90S** with D. Dan. Open from 6pm.  
**EDEN BAR**

**BIG GAY FRIDAY** Music from 80s 90s and today Every Friday A

great party night out  
**MIDLANDS**

**CULT** Bringing dirty house back home Top Floor from 10pm.  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**DJ DEANO** On the decks Happy Hour 12noon-2am  
**THE VILLAGE INN**

**DROP THE BOMB** start of your weekend £1.50 on all bombs (excluding the Gutterbomb) with our resident D. Rowan  
**EDEN BAR**

**LA VOIX** - Thurs 4 / Sat 13 Sep - Live on stage alternate Thursdays

**MARTY'S MADHOUSE**

Getting you warmed up for the weekend, Marty takes to the stage at The Village Inn, Birmingham, for a night of songs, games and, of course, cheap drinks - with a happy hour until 2am! There's music from DJ Deano too!

Cocktails & Cabaret  
**EDEN BAR**

**MARTY'S MADHOUSE** Songs Games and Happy Hour until 2am With Miss Marty and DJ Deano  
**THE VILLAGE INN**

**POUNDED** £5 entry Drinks from a £1 D. Corey playing chart, dance and urban on Ground Floor Miss Marty and DJ Craig with all the pop and cheese you could ask for on the middle floor  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**SING FOR DADDY'S DOLLARS** Karaoke Drinks from £1  
**THE FOX**

**PARTY POP** Poplastic Lunag D. Matt Happy Hour until 2am Open 10pm  
**BAR JESTER**

**THE URBAN COLLECTION** £5 entry  
**EDEN BAR**

Club DV8

**WEST MIDLANDS**

**CAMP KARAOKE** and  
**THE**

**THREE FURNACES** TELFORD

**CLUB KARAOKE** with D. Za  
**THE LION, WALSBALL**

**DIT OUT** with D. T  
**THE BELL, STOURBRIDGE**

**POP 69**

**GORGEOUS, WOLVES**

**DELTA**

**THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON**

**TARTUPE, THE RAINBOW**

£1

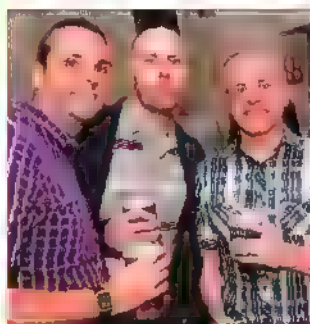
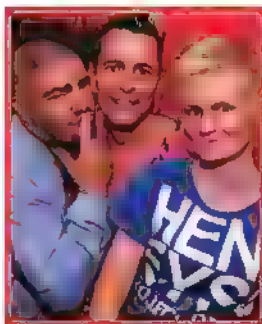
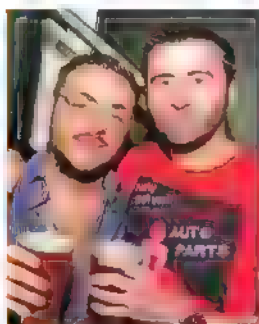
**THE FACTORY, STONE ON TRENT**

**EAST MIDLANDS**

**2 TILL 2** Open from

**THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON**

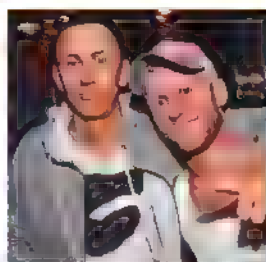
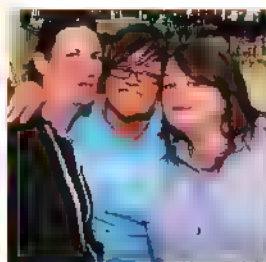
# Out and about in Birmingham's Gay Village...



Birmingham's gay scene is one of the biggest and best in Britain, with no shortage of bars and clubs to enjoy.

Every weekend, we pop into these venues to see what all you guys are up to, and whether you're enjoying yourselves.

Here's a selection of pictures from Equator, The Fox, Chic and Bar Jester. Check them out!





## GET YOUR LIP GLOSS ON

### Birmingham's Eden Bar

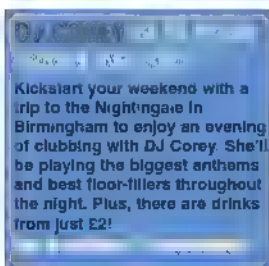
Lip Gloss, hosted on the first Friday of the month (Fri 5 Sep) at popular community venue Eden Bar in Birmingham, is a great night out for the trans\* community. So if you're trans, a friend, an admirer, or you just want a great night out, this is the event for you! Featuring some brilliant entertainment, Lip Gloss costs just £3 to get in and runs from 9pm through until 2am. Pop along, say hi and make some new friends!



### BIRMINGHAM

**2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS** - Sunday to Friday All day & night. Wind down after work with a cocktail or two  
**THE LOFT LOUNGE**

**2 FOR £10** Monday to Friday 12-6pm. Delicious new menu  
**SIDEWALK**



Kickstart your weekend with a trip to the Nightingale in Birmingham to enjoy an evening of clubbing with DJ Corey. She'll be playing the biggest anthems and best floor-fillers throughout the night. Plus, there are drinks from just £2!

**ALL DAY EVERY DAY PRICES** DJ Pam, takes over the weekend by playing the best of club classics house R&B and all your favourites. Enjoy all day every day prices too  
**SIDEWALK**



The best club classics, house and RnB is played every Friday night at Sidewalk! Party on!

**BIG GAY FRIDAY** Party anthems all night long with Missing's DJ James. Open until the early hours  
**MISSING BAR**

**DISCO & KARAOKE** with DJ Nikki  
**THE LOFT**

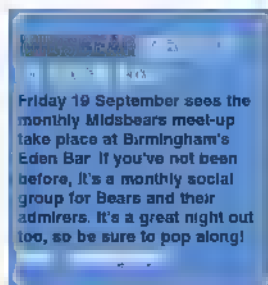
**FREAKY FRIDAY** with DJ Lotty Big name cabaret at midnight. Open until 6am. **Fri 5 Sep** Lady Imelda **Fri 12 Sep** Miss Penny **Fri 19 Sep** Glitter Lips **Fri 26 Sep** Sandra Happy Hour 12noon-8pm  
**THE VILLAGE INN**

**INFUSION** Free Entry. Absolute Anthems and Floor Fillers with DJ Corey. Drinks from £2. Admission £2  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**KICK START** Kick start the week

end from 9pm till the early hours  
Hosted by James  
**MISSING BAR**

**L&R** With Charlotte the Harriote. Open until 6am every Friday



Friday 19 September sees the monthly Midsbears meet-up take place at Birmingham's Eden Bar. If you've not been before, it's a monthly social group for Bears and their admirers. It's a great night out too, so be sure to pop along!

### THE VILLAGE INN

**LIP GLOSS - Fri 5 Sep** - with host Trisha. Every first Friday of the month. A night for the trans community (friends welcome). 9pm-2am. £3 admission  
**EDEN BAR**

**MOXIMEMO - Fri 19 Sep** - Monthly meet up and social group for Bears and Admirers  
**EDEN BAR**

**OLD SKOOL GARAGE** The first Friday of the month sees the Nightingale go back in time, playing some of the best in old skool garage. A night not to be missed  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**SAATHI - Fri 29 Sep** - Every last Friday monthly. South Asian Gay and Lesbian club night. Bollywood and Bhangra.  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**SING STAR SUPERSTAR** with DJ Nikki every Friday. Your chance to win cash  
**EDEN BAR**

**VINTAGE FRIDAYS** a night of soul, funk, rock, motown. Northern Soul and all the classic favourites  
**THE LOFT LOUNGE**

**XXL PRE-BAR - Fri 19 Sep** - Official pre-bar for XXL. Monthly meet up for the Midlands Bears  
**EDEN BAR**

**XXL - Fri 19 Sep** - Men only night



with DJ Christian M. Early Bear offers until 11pm. Every 3rd Friday of each month  
**THE CORE CLUB**

**BOLLYWOOD NIGHTS** Every Friday 11pm-1am  
**CLUB DV8**

**FUNK D UP** (alternates)

**CLUB CHIC**

**KARAOKE**

**THE FOX**

**RETRO FRIDAY**

**BAR JESTER**

**SO IT GOES 1ST BIRTHDAY - Fri 26 Sep**

**CLUB CHIC**

### WEST MIDLANDS

**TV PARTY NIGHT** A Men's Night for TVs, Cross Dressers and Admirers. Every Friday night at **THE GREENHOUSE, DARLSTON**

**BACK 2 BACK KARAOKE** with DJ Lenny and DJ Moses. 8pm-4am  
**THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON**

**CLUB NIGHT** Drink prom

**THE THREE FURNACES, TELFORD**

**CLUB FRIDAY** with DJ Z  
**THE LION, WALSALL**

**FRIDAY SOCIAL** with DJ F

**THE BECK, STOURBRIDGE**

**LUSH & YO!** 1st Fri. month

**GORGEOUS CLUB, WOLVERHAMPTON**

**PARTY NIGHT** with DJ La

**RAINBOWS, COVENTRY**

**START THE WEEKEND** Free adm. before 11pm. Tanva H.

**PINK, STOKE ON TRENT**

**TFI FRIDAY** A fun and funky

**BREWERY TAP, WORCESTER**

**VENOM** Foxy Divin

**THE FACTORY, STOKE-ON-TRENT**

### EAST MIDLANDS

**CABARET NIGHT** every Friday night, 10pm-1am

**DOVER CASTLE, LEICESTER**

**CLUB NIGHT** with DJ

**HELSINKI, LEICESTER**

**PINK POUNDER**

Open 9pm-4.30am

**THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON**

**VALUE FRIDAY** Dis.

**NEW FORESTERS, NOTTINGHAM**

**THE WEEKEND STARTS HERE** Fri

**THE FOX**

**NG1, NOTTINGHAM**

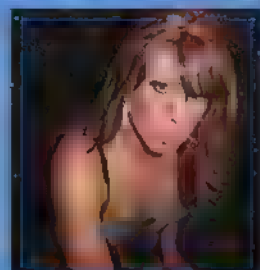
**WIG OUT** New month

**SLOANES, LEICESTER**

## LIFE IS A CABARET

### Birmingham's Village Inn

If you're out on a Friday night and looking for some great entertainment, then look no further than Birmingham's award-winning Village Inn. July sees four great acts take to the stage. Kicking off the month's line-up is Lady Imelda on Friday 5 September. Next up, on Friday the 12, is the brilliant Miss Penny, with Glitter Lips giving it their all on the 19th. Wrapping things up is the brilliant Sandra, on Friday the 26th.





## **XXL LONDON**

WEDNESDAYS 10PM - 3AM  
SATURDAYS 10PM - 8AM  
PULSE  
No.1 INVICTA PLACE SE1 9UF

[WWW.XXL-LONDON.COM](http://WWW.XXL-LONDON.COM)

## **BIRMINGHAM**

3RD FRIDAY EVERY MONTH  
9PM - 3AM  
THE CORE  
135 SHERLOCK ST, BIRMINGHAM

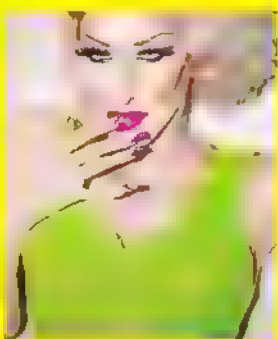
[FACEBOOK.COM/XXLLONDON](https://FACEBOOK.COM/XXLLONDON)



# It's time for a **DETOX** at The Nightingale this month...

Detox is set to appear live at The Nightingale Club in Birmingham this month (Sat 6 September)! The RuPaul's Drag Race star, who appeared on the fifth season of the hit TV show, will be doing a meet-and-greet for the lucky few who snap up tickets. Detox has starred in music videos with Ke\$ha and Rihanna, so we're sure she's going to be a popular draw at the Gale. Get your tickets now for this spectacular night out!

**THE NIGHTINGALE CLUB**  
BIRMINGHAM



## BIRMINGHAM

**80S HITS** with DJ Dan from 2am it's back to the 80s with cheap drink promotions  
**Eden Bar**

## ATTENTION! THE ARMY NIGHT IS BACK!

If you've got a bit of a thing for Army uniforms, then you should be delighted, because The Nightingale Club in Birmingham is hosting its very own Army Night on Saturday 20 September, raising money for Help for Heroes!

**THE NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**ARMY NIGHT - Sat 20 Sep -** Supporting Help for Heroes Discounted entry for those wearing uniform. Full club transformation  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**THE ATTIC** Available for hire. Call the venue for more info. 0121 622 4256  
**Missing Bar**

**BACK TO THE 80S** 2am-4am  
**Eden Bar**

**BACK TO SCHOOL FRESHER'S PARTY - Sat 27 Sep -** Two floors of party anthems with DJ Mykee and DJ Nick. Karaoke upstairs  
**Missing Bar**



## BEARBRUM: A FUN NIGHT OUT FOR BEARS!

If you love a bit of fun with the bears and their friends, then be sure to pop into Birmingham's Eden Bar for a night of great music and a fantastic atmosphere on Sat 6 September. There's free food too!

**Eden Bar**

**BEARBRUM - Sat 6 Sep -** Free food. With DJ Yogi in association with Mids Bears  
**Eden Bar**

**BIG SATURDAY NIGHT OUT** Over 2 floors. 3 DJs. Open til 8am. With DJ Lolly & DJ Richard Moon. With DJ Tonic in The Village Underground  
**THE VILLAGE INN**

**BIG SATURDAY NIGHT OUT** Every Saturday with loads of drinks promotions  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**CULT** Bringing dirty house back home. Top Floor from 10pm  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**DETOX - Sat 6 Sep -** The RuPaul's Drag Race star will be live on stage. Meet and greet tickets available  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**KARAOKE & COCKTAILS** In The Attic plus music from across the decades  
**Missing**

**HOMOSEXUAL - Sat 27 Sep -** Bringing dirty house back home. Top Floor from 10pm  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**L8R** With Charlotte the Charlotte. Open until 8am every Saturday  
**THE VILLAGE INN**

**SATURS-FACTION** Welcome in the weekend with resident DJ, playing the best of everything  
**SideWalk**

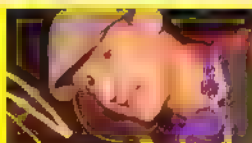
**SATURDAY SESSIONS** With DJ Simon Baker from 8pm  
**THE LOFT LOUNGE**

**SEXY SCHOOL NIGHT - Sat 27 Sep -** 90s Music and the best in current music. Come dressed up and see what you get  
**SideWalk**

**SWAGGERLICIOUS** Every Saturday night (Room 4)  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**TWISTED PRINCESS - Sat 13 Sep -** Twisted Princess Party. Transforming the venue into an X

rated magical palace. Come in your best fairytale outfit  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**



## WE <3 SATURDAYS AT MISSING IN BIRMINGHAM

Saturday nights at Missing Bar in Birmingham are always a big party night! Join DJ Mykee for a night of top tunes and a packed dancefloor with We <3 Saturdays. There's sexy dancers and Twiggy too!

**Missing Bar**

**WE <3 SATURDAYS** with DJ Mykee playing the best party tunes. Featuring Twiggy and sexy Shane on his stilts. Open until 4am  
**Missing Bar**

**YANIS MARSHALL - Sat 27 Sep -** The Britain's Got Talent and YouTube star live on stage  
**NIGHTINGALE CLUB**

**THE BREAKFAST CLUB** Every

**Club Ch**

**DJ MIKI** 1st  
**EQUATOR BAR**

**DJ PARTY NIGHT** Open from 3pm

**The Fox**

**Happy Hour**

very id  
**BAR JESTER**

**KARAOKE** Every  
**THE WELLINGTON**

## WEST MIDLANDS

**WOLVERHAMPTON PRIDE - Sat 27 Sep -** Fold Street Car Park. Parade. Main Stage. Market Stalls. Community area and much more  
**WOLVERHAMPTON**

**THE ANTIDOTE** Divna De Can

**THE FACTORY, STOKE ON TRENT**

**BIG NIGHT OUT** Big DJs to tunes. 8pm-3.30am  
**THE LION, WALSALL**

**CAMP & SLAG** 9pm-1am. From £1.50 incl. midr. Ph  
**GORGEOUS, WOLVERHAMPTON**

**CLUB NIGHT** [ ]

**THE THREE FURNACES, TELFORD**

**FLOORFILLERS** with DJ Andrew Smith  
**RAINBOWS, COVENTRY**

**INCLUSION** with Birmingham & Jt  
**THE BELL, STOURBRIDGE**

**LIVE CABARET** Shawn at 4am

**THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON**

**NOT TO MISS** cabaret show 9c  
**PINK, STOKE ON TRENT**

## EAST MIDLANDS

**Big Weekend Party Night** 10pm to 6am. Free entry before  
**THE BOSTON, NORTHAMPTON**

**BIG SATURDAY NIGHT OUT**

**NG1, NOTTINGHAM**

**CLUB NIGHT**

**Midnight to 6am**

**HELSEINK., LEICESTER**

**OUT DERBY LGBT - Sat 13 Sep -**

**DERBY**

# Get ready to go **BACK TO SCHOOL** in Birmingham!

To celebrate the start of the new term, two popular Birmingham gay venues are hosting Back To School nights on Saturday 27 September. Expect it to be a big night out - and if you turn up to either Missing or SideWalk in school fancy dress (think slutty school uniform!), you might be in for a real treat! Get down and dirty before you return to university or college - it's going to be a killer getting back into that routine!

**MISSING & SIDEWALK**





Birmingham LGBT

# PINK PICNIC

Sunday 7 September 2014, 1pm - 5pm

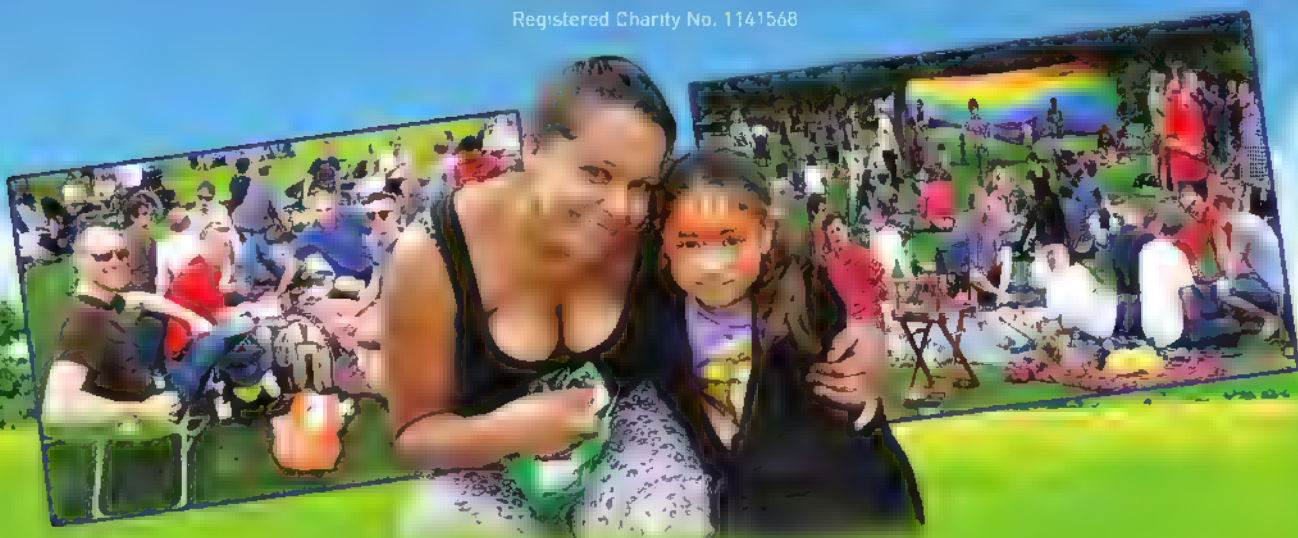
at Kings Heath Park, Birmingham

**NO Bars | NO Funfair | NO Charge**

[www.blgbt.org](http://www.blgbt.org)

[enquiry@blgbt.org](mailto:enquiry@blgbt.org) • 0121 643 0821

Registered Charity No. 1141568



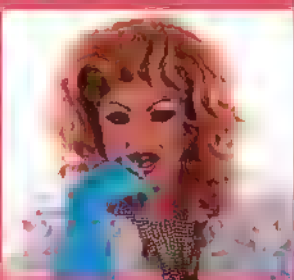
EVERYONE WELCOME

**ZONE**



## MISS PENNY goes Supersized every Sunday

Miss Penny, who famously has a love for Gregg's pasties, appears at Birmingham's popular Missing Bar every Sunday night. She's rude, crude and bloody hilarious - so be sure to pop down and see her in action. We've heard on the grapevine that she might be dishing out the odd sausage roll here and there too! It's free entry and there are plenty of drinks offers to enjoy!



### BIRMINGHAM

**2 FOR 1 COCKTAILS** Sunday to Friday. All day & night. Wind down after work with a cocktail or two  
**THE LOFT LOUNGE**

**2 FOR £10** New menu. Roast Dinner served every Sunday from 1pm.  
**SIDEWALK**

**DISCO & KARAOKE** with DJ Nikk. Every Sunday  
**EDEN BAR**

**MISS PENNY'S SUPER SIZE SUNDAY**

Cabaret every Sunday hosted by the one and only Miss Penny!  
**MISSING BAR**

### PINK PIGNO

- Sun 7 Sep -

1pm-5pm

No Bars. No

funfair. No

charge.

Organised

by

Birmingham

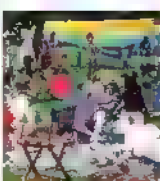
LGbt. www.bigt.org

KINGS HEATH PARK, BIRMINGHAM. B14 7TQ

**SUNDAY BREAKFAST**

The perfect

hangover cure from 9am. Just



£7.95. Carvery from 12noon for just £9.95

**THE LOFT LOUNGE**

**SUNDAY SESSION** with Mrs Mills and DJ Deano. Plus Bingo with Mrs Mills from 7pm. Happy Hour 12noon-10pm  
**THE VILLAGE INN**

**SUPER SUNDAY DINNER** served from 1pm. Cure that hangover and choose from a variety of meals with all the best bits of a roast for only £6.95

**SIDEWALK**

**CHILLAX**

Sunday promotions. Open sun-

day

**THE FOX**

**SUNDAY IS FUNDAY** with B...

...

**BAR JESTER**

**THE WELLINGTON**

### WEST MIDLANDS

**CHILL OUT**

RAINBOWS. COVENTRY

**CLUB SUNDAY**

...

**LION BAR & CLUB, WALSHALL**

**THE BOSSON, NORTHAMPTON**

**GORGEOUS, WOLVERHAMPTON**

**THE WHITE HART, WOLVERHAMPTON**

**RANDOM PARTY NIGHT**

**THREE FURNACES, TELFORD**

**THE FACTORY, STOKES ON TRENT**

**SUMMER SUNDAYS**

**THE LION BAR & CLUB, WALSHALL**

**THE BOSSON, NORTHAMPTON**

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**THE BOSSON, NORTHAMPTON**

**RAINBOW & DOVE, LEICESTER**

**KARAOKE & DISCO**

**NEW FORESTERS, NOTTINGHAM**

**KARAOKE WITH T**

**THE BOSSON, NORTHAMPTON**

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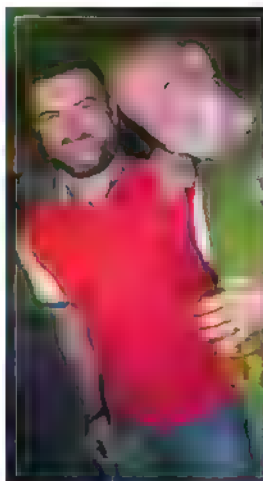
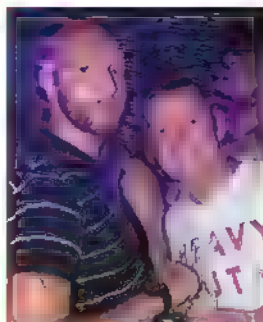
**THE BOSSON, NORTHAMPTON**

**THE FACTORY, STOKES ON TRENT**

**SUMMER SUNDAYS**

**THE LION**

# It's a man's world at The Core Club for **XXL**



Every third Friday of the month sees London's award-winning XXL men's night visiting Birmingham's Core Club on Sherlock Street.

A night of great music from DJ Christian M sets the energetic mood on the dance floor creating a brilliant atmosphere for a social outing with like minded men.

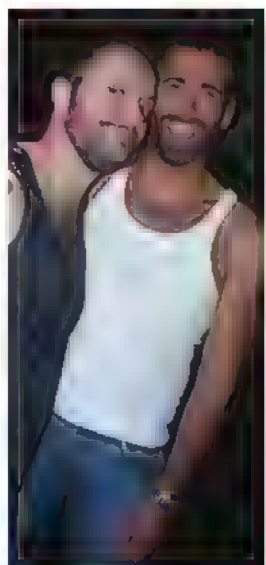
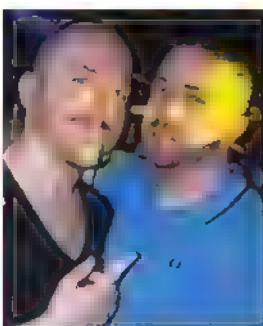
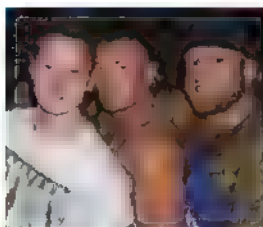
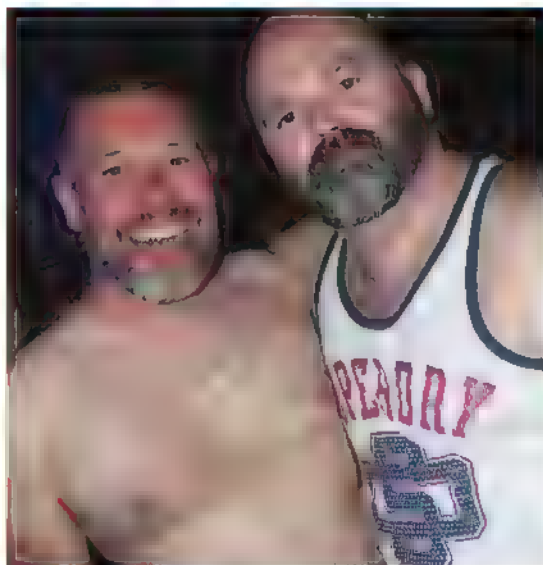
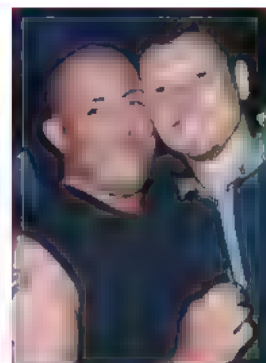
Expect fantastic drinks offers, hunky men and a night you'll be talking about for weeks to come. And what's more entry is only a fiver!

Oh, and don't forget that Eden Bar across the road is also the official XXL pre-bar - so be sure to pop in there for an early-doors drink.

[www.xxl-london.com](http://www.xxl-london.com)



More great photos on **facebook**



Pictures by Antony Collins



# Missing: Birmingham's gay party paradise!

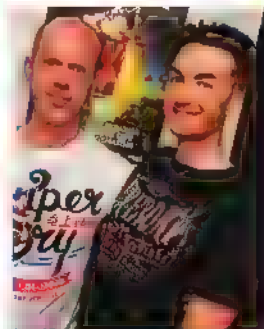
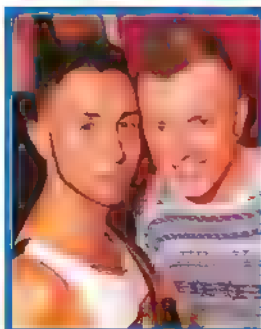
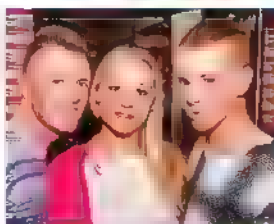
Take a trip down to Birmingham's Missing Bar for a great party night out the next time you're out and about in the city's bright and vibrant gay village!

Saturday 27 September sees the popular gay venue hosting its very own Back To School Freshers' Party - and it's set to be a B G night out!

There'll be two floors of great music to enjoy. DJ Mykee will be downstairs, playing the best party anthems, whilst DJ Nick will be upstairs, playing everything in between as well as offering a spot of karaoke.

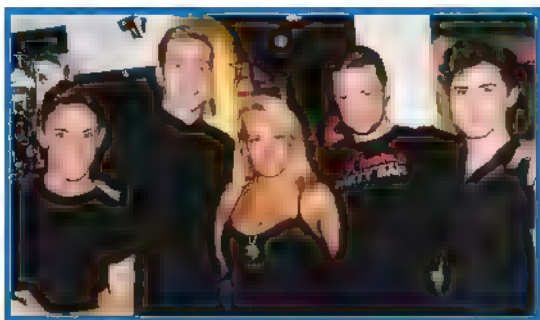
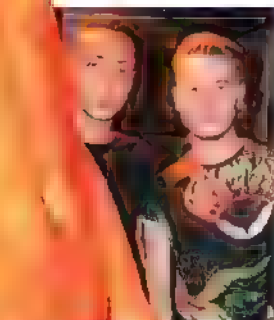
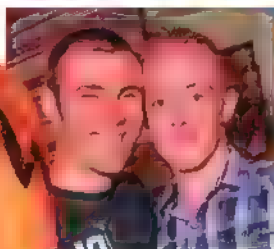
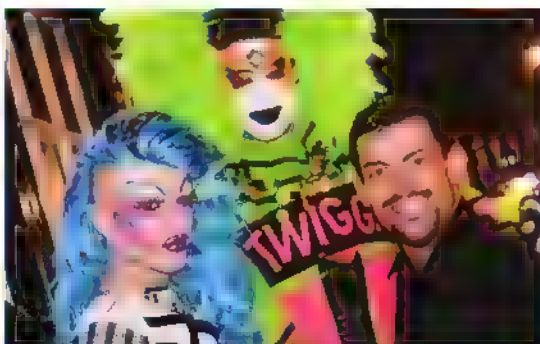
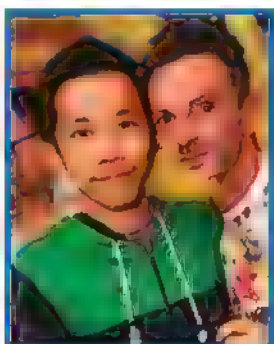
Oh, and don't forget your fabulous hostess, Twiggy, and the sexy topless dancers!

[www.missingbar.co.uk](http://www.missingbar.co.uk)



More great photos on **facebook**

[facebook.com/midlandszone.co.uk](https://www.facebook.com/midlandszone.co.uk)



YOUR PARTY BAR!

# Missing

  
**£1 DRINKS**  
EVERY MONDAY

**Missing**  
**KARAOKE**  
EVERY TUESDAY

**2 GOOD**  
**2 MISS!**  
**£2 DRINKS**  
EVERY WEDNESDAY

  
**MISS PENNY'S**  
**SUPERSIZE**  
SUNDAYS

**#THROWBACK**  
**THURSDAYS**  
**£120 BOMBS**  
EVERY THURSDAY

**BIG**  
**80'S**  
**90'S**  
**& TODAY**  
EVERY FRIDAY

**\*SELECTED**  
**SATURDAY**  
**NIGHT**  
**PARTY**

**SATURDAY 27TH**  
**SEPTEMBER**

**back to school!**  
**FRESHERS PARTY!**

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**TWO FLOORS** PARTY ANTHEMS  
**DJ MYKEE** MIDLANDS NO.1 BARD  
**DJ NICKI** WITH KARAOKE  
**TWIGGY** UPSTAIRS  
KEEPING YOU ENTERTAINED

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0121 622 4256 - FIND US ON FACEBOOK - R.O.A.R.  
OPEN TILL LATE.



# Dance until dawn at **The Village Inn** in Brum!

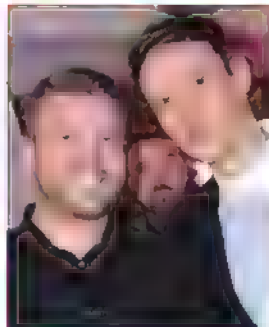
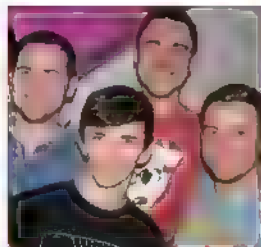
If you're a keen party animal, you might want to take a trip to Birmingham's gay village and visit the award-winning Village Inn

The popular venue's resident D.J.s, Lotty and Richard Moon, play a great selection of tunes from a huge range of genres.

Expect a packed dancefloor of enthusiastic party-goers, all of whom will be out to have a memorable night of high-energy fun!

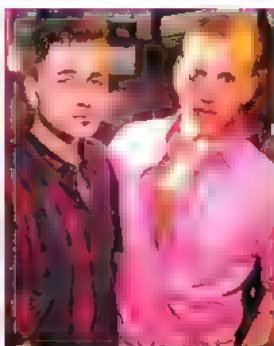
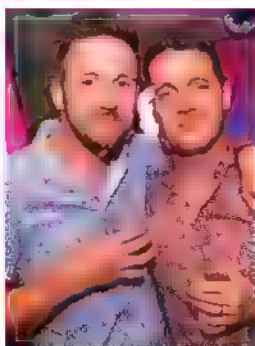
Hostess with the mostess Charlotte The Harlot will keep the party going right through until the following morning - expect the sun to be up by the time you're finished!

[www.villagebirmingham.co.uk](http://www.villagebirmingham.co.uk)



More great photos on **facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/villagebirmingham>



Pictures by **Laura Byrne & Antony Collins**

# The Village

Inn

SEPTEMBER



FRIDAY 05  
*Lady Imelda*



FRIDAY 19  
*Glitter Lips*



FRIDAY 12  
*Miss Penny*

## L8R

VILLAGE

FRIDAYS TILL 6AM  
SATURDAYS TILL 8AM



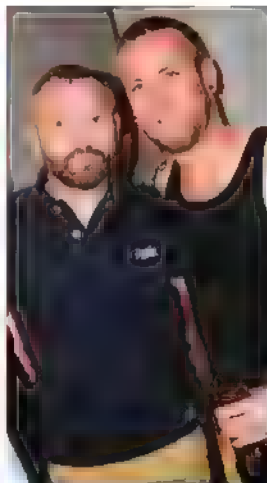
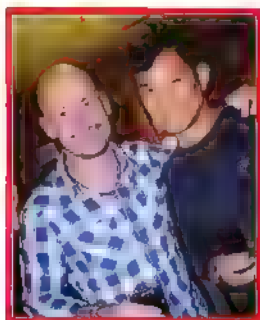
FRIDAY 26  
*Sandra*

 <b>MONDAY</b> WITH MRS MILLS & DJ BRANCO <small>11:30pm - 2am</small>	 <b>TUESDAY</b> WITH MISS PENNY & CHARLOTTE THE HARLOTTE	 <b>WEDNESDAY</b> WITH DJ DEANO & CHARLOTTE THE HARLOTTE	 <b>THURSDAYS</b> WITH MISS MARTY & DJ DEANO	 <b>FRIDAYS</b> WITH BIG NAME CABARET AT 12 AM	 <b>SATURDAYS</b> WITH 2 FLOORS OF MUSIC PLUS 8 AM BAR	 <b>SUNDAYS</b> 8:00 FROM 7 WITH SUNDAY SESSIONS
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# let us entertain you



# La Voix goes down a treat at Birmingham's **Eden!**



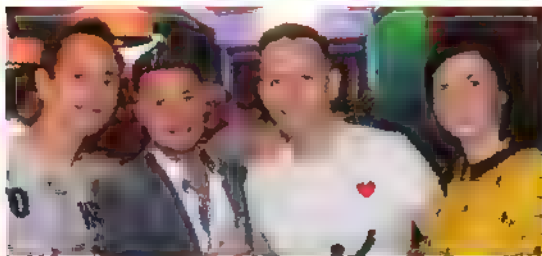
Last month saw Britain's Got Talent semi-finalist La Voix take to the stage at popular Birmingham gay venue Eden Bar.

As part of a summer residency at the venue, La Voix visited the award winning gay bar twice in August, delighting crowds with her great singing and witty humour.

If you still haven't managed to catch her at Eden, you've got a couple more chances in September.

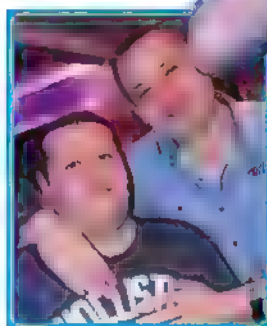
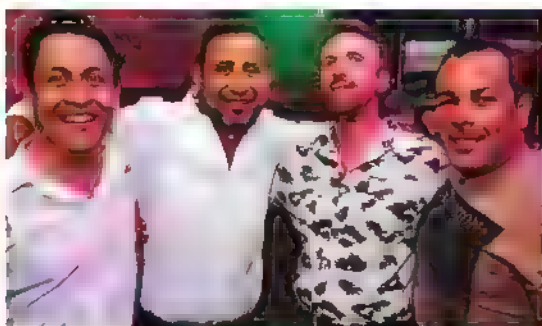
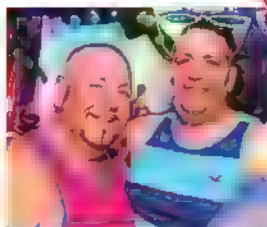
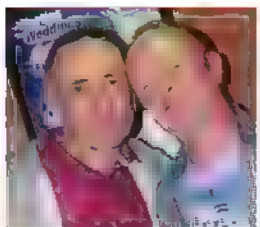
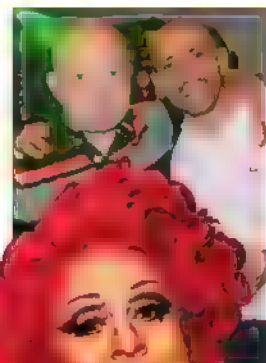
Head down to the bar on Thursday the 4th or Saturday the 13th. Or if you really love her, why not show your support by catching not just one but both of her gigs!

[www.theedenbar.co.uk](http://www.theedenbar.co.uk)



More great photos on **facebook**

[facebook.com/midlandszone.co.uk](https://facebook.com/midlandszone.co.uk)



Pictures by Laura Byrne & Antony Collins

Open from 7pm every day.

eden

September

**Fri 5th**

Colour Your Life &  
Shimmer Your Night

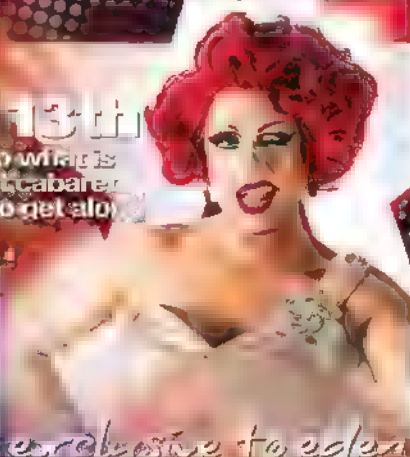
*Lip Gloss*

**STARSTRUCK Grand Finals.**  
Hosted by Miss Alexandra Diaz  
and Miss Paradise Knox.  
With the super sexy  
**STRIPPER FABIO.**

# La Voix

**THURS 4th SAT 13th**

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fast becoming the best cabaret  
night in town you need to get along  
and see La Voix.  
Now Filling the Marquee!



*exclusive to eden*

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**EVERY FRI & SUN**

**EVERY SAT**



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Offers  
All Night



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**DJ DAN**  
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**KARAOKE &**  
**DISCO DJ NIKKI**  
COME ALONG & SING  
WITH A FRIENDLY  
REGULAR CROWD



**80s HITS WITH**  
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# Walk on the wild side at Birmingham's Sidewalk!

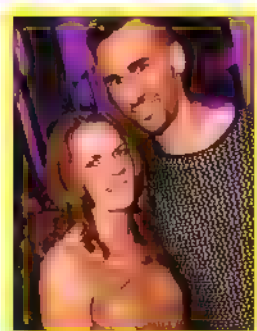
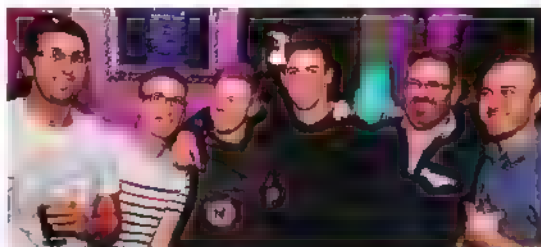
Whenever you pay a visit to Birmingham's diverse gay village, it's always tough deciding where to go for a good night out.

Before you and your mates head off to a club at the end of the evening, we think you should swing by Sidewalk for a drink or two.

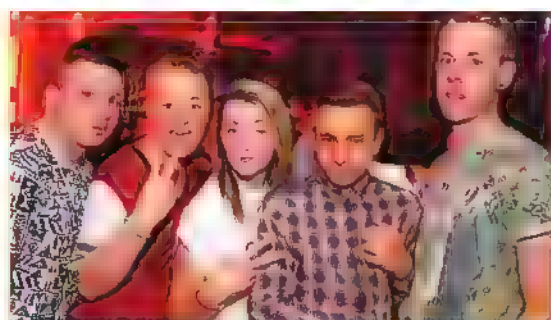
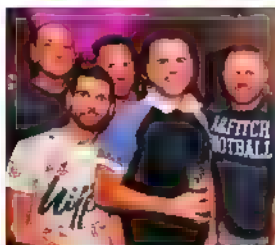
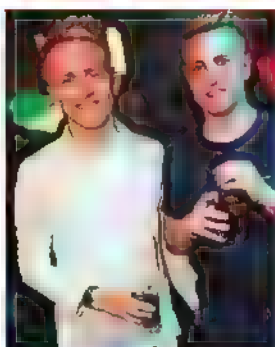
The venue is one of Hurst Street's most popular, and always attracts a great crowd of people.

And what's more, it offers cheap drinks (especially on a Thursday night, with £1.50 bombs), great music from DJ Kam and a dancefloor experience that's well worth a try-out.

[www.sidewalkbirmingham.co.uk](http://www.sidewalkbirmingham.co.uk)

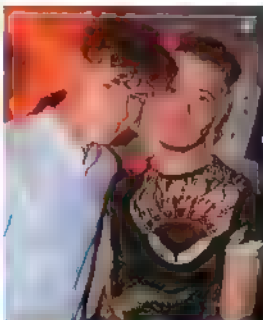
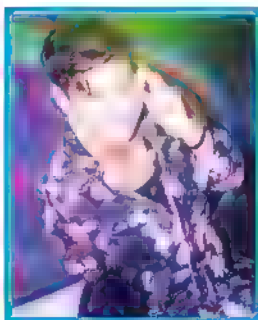


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Photos by Laura Byrne & Anthony Collins

# Twerk it out at gay superclub **The Nightingale**



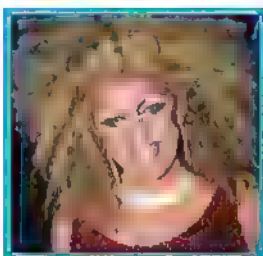
If you've been out and about in Birmingham's Gay Village with your mates, the one place you're likely to end your night is gay superclub **The Nightingale**.

With its three floors, four rooms of music and plenty of room in which to throw some shapes, it makes for a great night out.

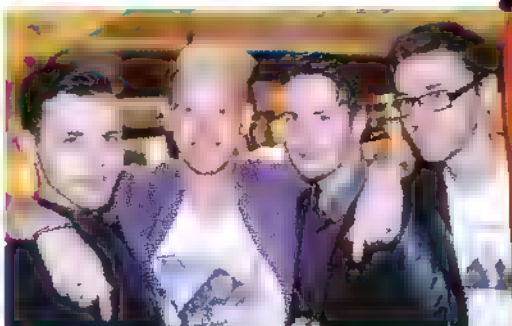
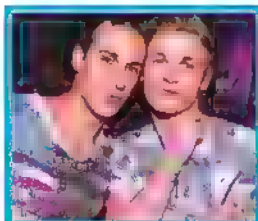
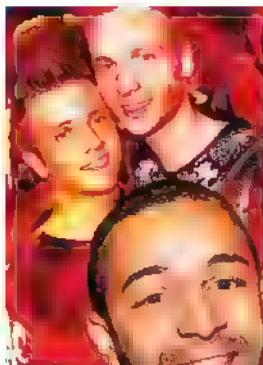
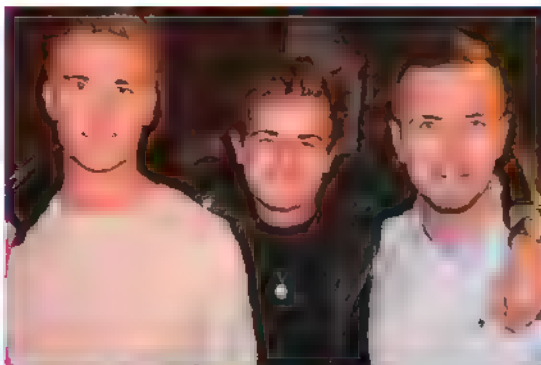
There's music to suit most tastes too, so grinding or twerking the night away just isn't a problem!

There's plenty of eye candy to enjoy as well, with topless men dancing on the podiums all night long! And cheap drinks mean you'll be able to enjoy your night out on a budget if need be.

[www.nightingaleclub.co.uk](http://www.nightingaleclub.co.uk)



More great photos on **facebook**  
facebook.com/indiesofbham





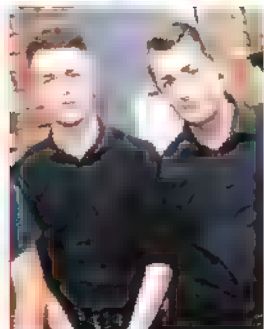
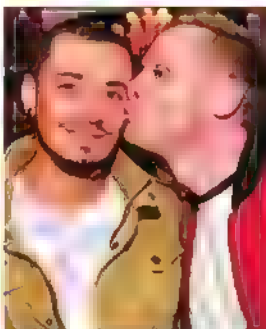
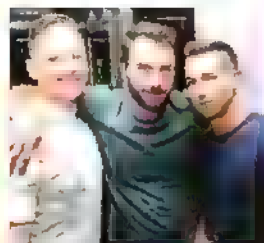
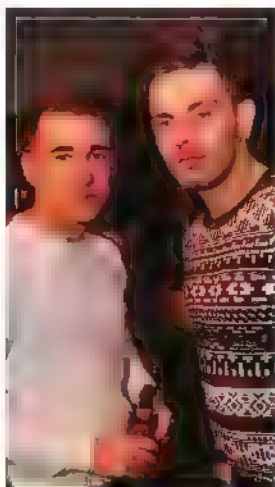
# Start the night with Champagne at **The Loft Lounge**

If you're looking for a great night out and fancy some drinks with a bit of fizz, pop into Birmingham's Loft Lounge for a glass or two of Champagne.

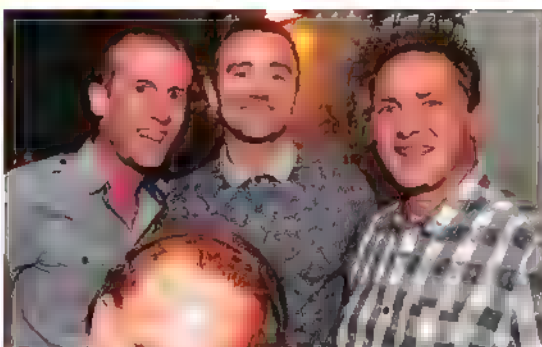
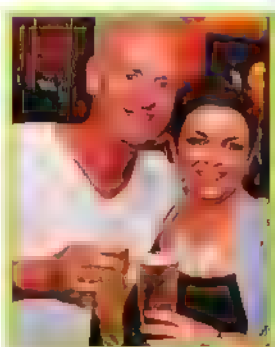
Located on Bromsgrove Street, right in the heart of the city's gay village, The Loft Lounge serves a fantastic selection of cocktails, spirits, beers, wines and Champagne - there's pretty much something for everybody.

There's a great atmosphere at The Loft Lounge too, with top music from resident DJ Simon Baker getting you in the mood to move on to your favourite gay club.

[www.theloftlounge.co.uk](http://www.theloftlounge.co.uk)



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**SUNDAY - FRIDAY**



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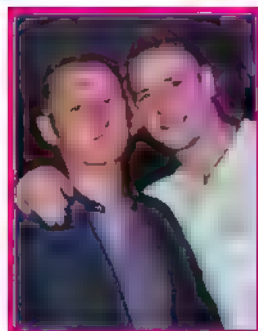
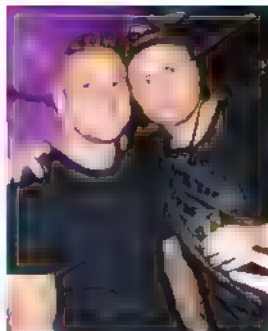
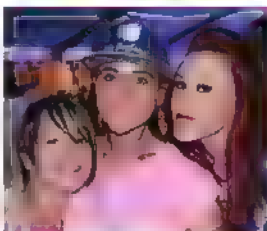
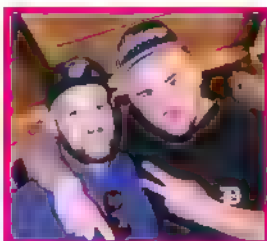
# Bank Holiday success for Brum's Dance Arena

Last month's Bank Holiday weekend saw one of Birmingham's gay village car parks turned into a massive, thumping Dance Arena.

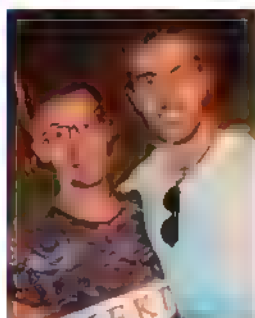
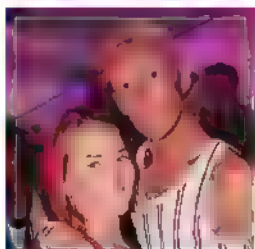
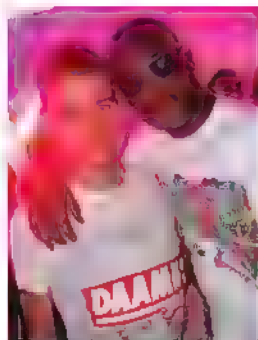
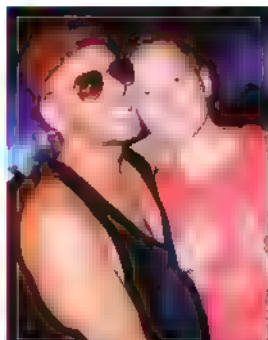
The two day event, organised by Cub Chic and The Nightingale, was inspired by the Birmingham Pride Dance Arena and boasted a great atmosphere. Hundreds of party-goers danced the r way through the weekend, with a whole host of big-name DJs making sure a good time was had by all.

The event was rounded off nicely with after-party fun at The Nightingale Club.

We're hoping the dance arena will make a return sometime soon. If not, then roll on Birmingham Pride 2015!



facebook



Pictures by Antony Collins

## Birmingham

### BAR JESTER

Howdaway Circus,  
B1 1EG  
Tel: 0121 643 8344

### BOLTZ CLUB

Lower Essex St B5 6QP  
Tel: 0121 666 5888

### CLUB CHIC

28 Horsear B11DD  
Tel: 0121 666 6806

### CLUB DV8

16 Lower Essex  
Street B5 6NL  
Tel: 0121 622 1160

### THE CORE

Sherlock St B5 6NB  
Tel: 0121 622 2797  
www.thecoreclub.co.uk  
f /thecoreclubbirmingham  
See pictures on page 41

### EDEN BAR

Sherlock St B5 6NB  
Tel: 0121 622 1953  
www.theedenbar.co.uk  
f /eden.bar  
See pictures on page 46

### EQUATOR

Hurst St B5 6SE  
Tel: 0121 622 5077

### FOUNTAIN INN

Wrentham St B5 6QL  
Tel: 0121 622 1452

### THE FOX

17 Lower Essex St  
B5 6SN Tel: 0121 622 3213

### LOFT LOUNGE

142 Bromsgrove St,  
B5 6RG  
Tel: 0121 622 444  
www.theloftlounge.co.uk  
f The-Loft-Lounge  
See pictures on page 60

### MISSING BAR

Hurst St B5 6NU

Tel: 0121 622 4256

www.missingbar.co.uk

f /missingbar

See pictures on page 42

### THE NIGHTINGALE

Kent St Bham  
B5 6RD  
Tel: 0121 622 1718  
www.nightingaleclub.co.uk  
f /thenightingaleclub  
See pictures on page 45

### RSVP (formerly Quaver Street)

For Exclusive Hire  
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Tel: 0121 622 2444

### SIDEWALK

Hurst Street,  
B1 1EG  
Tel: 0121 666 6220  
www.sidewalkbirmingham.co.uk  
See pictures on page 48

### THE VILLAGE INN

Hurst St Bham  
B5 4BD  
Tel: 0121 622 4742  
www.villagebirmingham.co.uk  
f /villageinnbirmingham  
See pictures on page 44

### THE WELLINGTON

72 Bristol St B5 7AR  
Tel: 0121 622 2592

## West Midlands

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### RAINBOWS

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Tel: 024 6 551738

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### THE WESTGATE

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GL1 2NF  
Tel: 01452 690045

### KIDDERMINSTER

### ROYAL EXCHANGE

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Tel: 01562 228619

### LEEK

### VALIANT

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Tel: 01538 382812

### SHREWSBURY

### C-21 CLUB

Abbey Foregate,  
SY2 6AE  
Tel: 01743 271821  
www.c21bar.co.uk  
f /C21Nightclub  
See pictures on page 35

### THE PEACH TREE

21 Abbey Foregate,  
Tel: 01743 355055  
www.thepeachtree.co.uk  
f /ThePeachTreeRestaurant

### SPIRIT

22 Abbey Foregate,  
SY2 6AE  
Tel: 01743 271821  
www.spiritchampagne.co.uk  
f /SpiritShrewsbury

### STOKE-ON-TRENT

### THE FACTORY

67 Bryan St  
Hanley ST1 5AF

### PINK

93 Stafford Street,  
ST1 1LS  
Tel: 01782 272772

### STOURBRIDGE

### THE BELL

20 Market St DY8 1AG  
Tel: 07826 51848

### STRATFORD upon AVON

### NO7

Proud Crowd  
1st Mon monthly  
7 Windsor St  
Tel: 0775 642510

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### THREE FURNACES

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Macclesfield TF1 4UB  
Tel: 01952 588521

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### LION BAR & CLUB

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WS2 8NG  
Tel: 01922 610977

### THE RED LION

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Tel: 01922 637790

### WOLVERHAMPTON

### BOND STREET TAVERN

14 Bond St WV2 4AS  
Tel: 07825 305050

### GORGEOUS CLUB

School St WV1 4JF  
Tel: 01902 427247

### THE WHITE HART

Worcester St  
WV4 4QG  
Tel: 01902 423958

### WORCESTER

### THE FLAG

50 Lowesmoor WR1 2SG  
Tel: 01905 780467

### VELVET CLUB

Angel Row WR1 3QN  
Tel: 01905 20218

## East Midlands

### DERBY

### THE CROWN INN

40 Curzon St LE1 1LL  
Tel: 01332 381742

### LEICESTER

### DOVER CASTLE

34 Dover St LE16PT  
Tel: 0116 255 3052

### HELSEINKI

94 R. and St LE1 1SB  
Tel: 0116 254 7568

### RAINBOW & DOVE

185 Charles St LE1 1JA  
Tel: 0116 254 7508

### SLOANES

35 New Walk LE1 6RL  
Tel: 0116 255 2220

### VENOM

YOLO Gay every Wed  
Belgrave Gate LE1 3GR  
Tel: 0116 251 7986

### MANSFIELD

### CHEEKY MONKEY

Leeming St NG18 1NG  
Tel: 01623 633330

### NORTHAMPTON

### THE BOSTON

College St NN1 2QP  
Tel: 01604 604404

### NOTTINGHAM

### NEW FORESTERS

St Ann's St NG1 3LX  
Tel: 0115 958 0432

### THE NEWMARKET INN

38 Lower Parliament  
Street NG1 3BA Gay  
Frendly

### NG1 CLUB

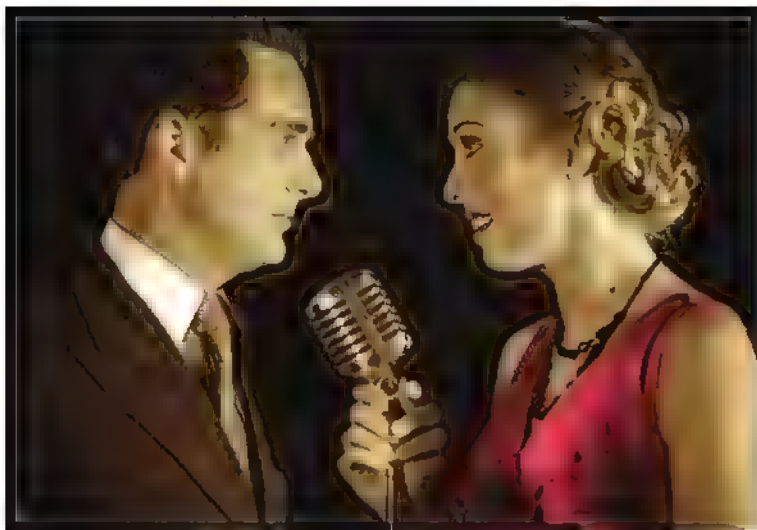
76-80 Lower Parliament  
St NG1 1EH  
Tel: 0115 958 8440

### PROPAGANDA

8 Boadway NG1 1PS  
0115 979 9183







## Propaganda Swing

Billed as a show about 'Singers, Swastikas and All That Jazz', Propaganda Swing focuses on the efforts of Nazi Propaganda Ministry official Karl 'Charly' Schwedler to use the power of jazz for the benefit of Fascism. The Belgrade is proudly advertising the production as the must see show of its autumn season, and it's easy to understand why, with a captivating tale of World War Two intrigue being played out against a backdrop of Big Band swagger, as presented live on stage by a talented swing band. Go see

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, Sat 13 - Sat 27 September

## War Horse

Described as 'the theatrical event of the decade' when it opened in the London West End, War Horse has continued to garner great praise in the ensuing years. Based on Michael Morpurgo's hugely popular 1982 novel, it tells the story of a young man named Albert whose horse, Joey, is sold to the cavalry and shipped to France at the beginning of the First World War. Joey's subsequent adventures lead to him finding himself alone in a no man's land - but Albert is in no mood to give up on his beloved companion and sets out to find him and take him home to Devon.

The production has been widely praised for its effective use of lifelike horse puppets, and has picked up numerous coveted awards since premiering in 2007 including an Olivier Award and five Tony Awards. It's not been to everybody's liking, however, with several of its critics feeling that, while the plot worked effectively as a children's book, it lacked sufficient substance to carry an evening of the theatre, particularly one endeavouring to present the atrocities of war.

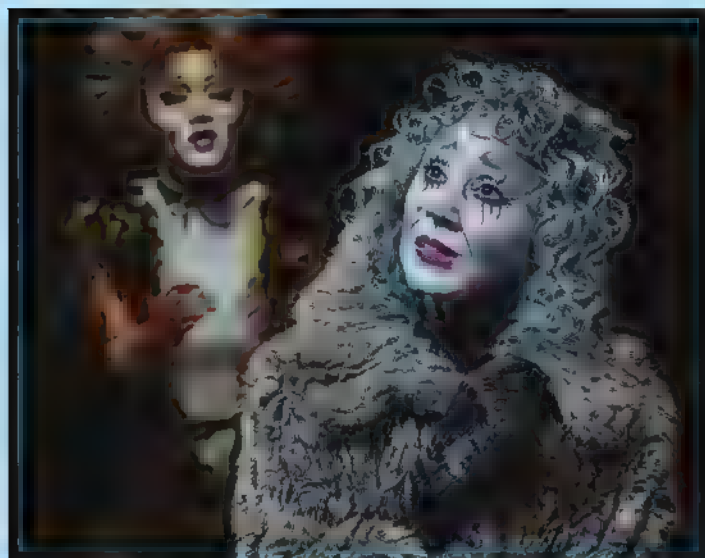
Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent, Wed 24 September - Sat 11 October



## Dirty Dancing

Seen by millions across the globe, Eleanor Bergstein's worldwide smash-hit musical tells the classic story of Baby and Johnny, two fiercely independent young spirits from different worlds who come together for what will prove to be the most challenging and triumphant summer of their lives. Hit numbers include Hungry Eyes, Hey Baby, Do You Love Me? and I've Had The Time Of My Life. If you've not seen the show before, it's well worth checking out - its celebrity fans include Sir Ian McKellen, Dame Judy Dench, Emma Forbes, Naomi Campbell, Alan Shearer, Graham Norton and Joanna Lumley, to name but a few. So if you enjoy the show you'll certainly be in exalted company.

Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, Tue 23 September - Sat 11 October



## Cats

A spectacular and captivating adaptation of TS Eliot's Old Possum's Book Of Practical Cats, this Andrew Lloyd Webber production has been performed in over three hundred cities in more than twenty countries around the world. It's also widely considered to be the show that redefined the modern musical, paving the way for a seemingly relentless stream of blockbuster hits. All in all, then, one heluva theatrical experience...

Birmingham Hippodrome, Tues 9 - Sat 27 September



## Blondie

Sometimes style can outweigh substance – but in the case of Blondie, some body got the measurements just about right. At the height of the band's fame in the late-1970s, ex-Playboy bunnygirl and male adolescent fantasy Debbie Harry was the ultimate trendsetter. Her chiseled features and punk-chick style made her the perfect cover girl, her disinterested expression the equally perfect image for a disaffected generation. Indeed, so high was Harry's profile that it was easy to forget guitarist Chris Stein, drummer Clem Burke and keyboardist Jimmy Destri were also in the band. Breaking up in 1982, Blondie reformed fifteen years later and followed their golden-era string of hits – including Call Me, Atomic and The Tide Is High – with the 1999 single Mana, which stormed to the UK number one spot exactly twenty years after Heart Of Glass had become their first British chart-topper. Earlier this year winning NME's Godlike Genius award, the band appear in Birmingham in support of their latest album, Ghosts Of Download.

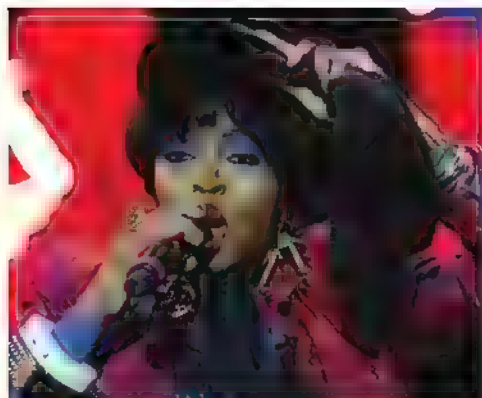
O2 Academy, Birmingham, Sat 13 Sept



## Martha Reeves & The Vandellas

A living legend comes to Shrewsbury. One of the biggest names in the history of music, Martha Reeves is widely referred to as 'the first lady of Motown'. During her time with The Vandellas, from the late-'50s through to the early '70s, the all-girl group charted an impressive twenty-plus hits, including classic anthems like Nowhere To Run, Jimmy Mack and Dancing In The Street. The latter song, the Vandellas' signature tune, is this year a half-century old, with Martha and co currently touring to arenas, casinos, clubs, theatres and festivals across the world in celebration.

The Jam House, Birmingham, Thurs 4 Sept; The Buttermarket, Shrewsbury, Fri 19 September; Prince Of Wales Theatre, Cannock, Fri 26 September



## Ms. Lauren Hill

Breaking new ground as part of The Fugees, Lauryn Hill recorded her one and only seminal album, The Miseducation Of Lauryn Hill, in 1998, selling eight million copies in the USA alone. She's since gone on to raise six children with Rohan Marley, son of Damian, and served jail time for tax evasion in 2013. Now, following the sell-out success of two London shows, she plays Birmingham and Manchester on this short tour, her second UK showing in five years.

O2 Academy, Birmingham, Tues 23 Sept



## Nik Kershaw

Is it really possible that Nik Kershaw has clocked up a half-century and more on Planet Earth? It seems like only yesterday that the boy from Bristol was a fresh-faced teen idol, sharing airtime and chart space with the likes of Duran Duran, Wham! and Haircut 100. A one-time funk guitarist, Nik spent a record-breaking fifty weeks in the charts in his golden year of 1984, and played his part in Live Aid the following year too, as well as scoring hits with songs like I Won't Let The Sun Go Down On Me and Wouldn't It Be Good. Oh, and he also wrote the Chesney Hawkes number one, The One And Only.

Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, Wed 10 September; The Robin, Bilston, Thurs 25 September





### Sex Tape **CERT 15** (94 mins)

Starring Simon Bird, James Buckley, Blake Harrison, Joe Thomas, Belinda Stewart-Wilson Directed by Damon Beesley and Iain Morris (UK)

Having wreaked havoc in Crete, Jay Cartwright (Buckley) goes on a gap year in Australia and invites along his sex-mad, half-witted friends. The last film - The Inbetweeners Movie - broke box-office records in the UK, so expect much more of the same. **Out 3 September**



### What We Did on Our Holiday **CERT 12a** (95 mins)

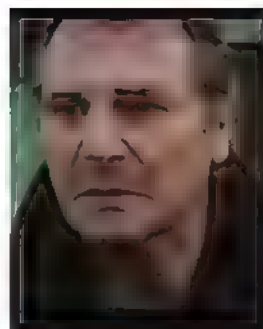
Starring Rosamund Pike, David Tennant, Ben Miller, Amelia Bullmore, Billy Connolly, Celia Imrie Directed by Andy Hamilton and Guy Jenkin

When Abi (Pike) and Doug (Tennant) are invited to the Scottish Highlands for the birthday of Doug's father (Billy Connolly), they are determined to keep their impending divorce a secret. But Abi and Doug take along their three children and you know what children are like... A comedy from the creators of TV's Outnumbered. **Out 26 September**

### A Walk Among The Tombstones **CERT tbc**

Starring Liam Neeson, Dan Stevens, Boyd Holbrook, Sebastian Roche Directed by Scott Frank (USA)

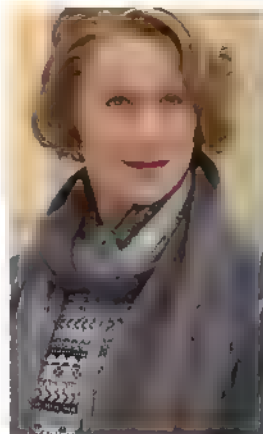
It sounds like a Western but it's actually a crime drama based on the novel by Lawrence Sanders. When his wife is kidnapped, a New York drug czar (Dan Stevens) hires a former cop (Liam Neeson) to get her back... **Out 19 September**



### The Hundred Foot Journey **CERT PG** (112 mins)

Starring Helen Mirren, Om Puri, Manish Dayal, Charlotte Le Bon Directed by Lasse Hallström (USA)

Produced by Steven Spielberg and Oprah Winfrey, this is the much anticipated adaptation of the 2010 novel by Richard C. Morais. Although set across a mere hundred feet of boulevard in Midi-Pyrenees, in France, the tale encapsulates the extremes of global culture today. When Hassan Kadam (Manish Dayal) and his family are displaced from their native India, they set up a new restaurant in the South of France. However, Madame Mallory (Helen Mirren), the proprietress of a traditional French restaurant down the street, is determined to give the new upstarts hell. The screenplay is by Steven Knight, who previously scripted Dirty Pretty Things, Eastern Promises and Locke, while the director Lasse Hallström has brought us The Cider House Rules, Salmon Fishing in the Yemen and, significantly, the French-set adaptation of Joanne Harris's Chocolat. Oscar buzz is a ready humming. **Out 19 September**



### They Came Together **CERT 15** (81 mins)

Starring Paul Rudd, Amy Poehler, Cobie Smulders, Christopher Meloni, Max Greenfield, Bill Hader Directed by David Wain (USA)

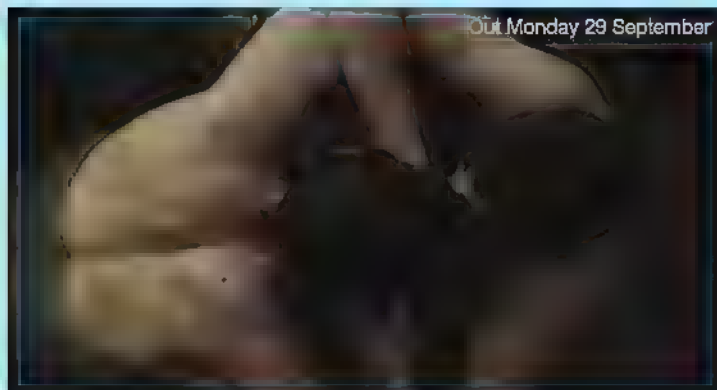
With a title like this, it's a wonder Judd Apatow wasn't involved. But this is actually a parody of the romantic comedy and apparently Paul Rudd and Amy Poehler knock sparks off each other. **Out 5 September**

## DVDs

### Boys (TBC)

How does it feel to win a race when you know you lost a love? During his summer holidays, Sieger is training in the new athletics team for the national relay championships. When he meets the intriguing and unpredictable

Marc, he discovers feelings that go far beyond ordinary friendship. Sieger then engages in a lonely struggle with himself as Marc reciprocates his feelings - and the championship moves ever closer.



Out Monday 29 September

### I Am Divine (15)

I Am Divine is a biographical portrait charting the legendary icon's rise to fame as a cult superstar. The film features rare movie footage, live performances and brand new interviews

with John Waters, Ricki Lake, Mink Storey and Hunter and Divine's mother. This definitive biography honours Divine in the way she always craved: as a serious artist and immortal star.

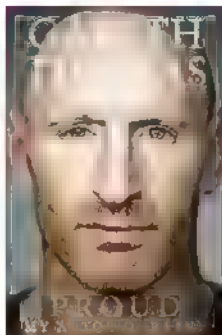


Out now

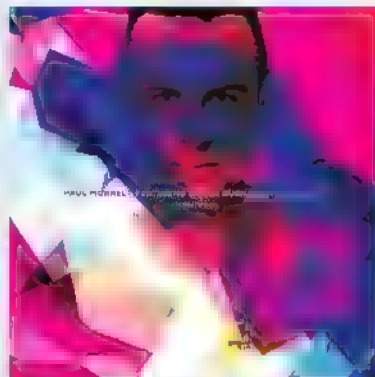
## ...and something to read

### Proud: My Autobiography by Gareth Thomas

Gareth Thomas was a national hero and sporting icon. He was the captain of both the Welsh national rugby team and the British Lions. Rugby was everything to him; it gave him all he needed except the freedom to be himself. This is the story of a man with a secret that was slowly killing him. A secret that might devastate not only his own life but the lives of his wife, family, friends and teammates. His fear that telling the truth about his sexuality would lose him everything he loved almost sent him over the edge. The deceit ended when Gareth became the world's most prominent athlete to come out as a gay man.



## New Music



### Give Me Love (Remixes)

Paul Morrell feat. Mutya Buena

Local Coventry DJ Paul Morrell is releasing a whole load of remixes of his single, Give Me Love, featuring ex Sugababe Mutya Buena. Expect big sounds, with remixes from big-name producers such as K Klass!



### Chapter One

Ella Henderson

This debut album from X Factor star Ella Henderson is tipped for the number one spot following the huge success of her first single, Ghost. Written by Henderson with help from some big names, the album should pretty quickly see her become a household name.

### V (Five)

Maroon 5

Maroon 5's fifth studio album (pronounced Five) follows up the hugely popular Overexposed. The 11 track offering features Top 40 single It Was Always You alongside many Top 10-worthy tracks. Definitely worth a listen if you're a Maroon 5 fan!





Gender Matters helps people who consider themselves to be trans\* by providing support and information, not only for the individual themselves but also for their friends, family and a lot of others, as well as for professionals who employ trans\* people.

"Creating a specific offence of domestic abuse may send a clear, consistent message to frontline agencies that non-violent control in an intimate relationship is criminal," the consultation document states. "Explicitly capturing this in legislation may also help victims identify the behaviour they are suffering as wrong, and encourage them to report it, and cause perpetrators to rethink their

'Eighty percent of trans people have also experienced emotionally, sexually or physically abusive behaviour by a partner or ex-partner.'

**WANT A SEXUAL HEALTH CHECK?**

EVEN IF YOU HAVEN'T ANY SYMPTOMS, SOMETIMES YOU CAN BE WORRIED THAT YOU HAVE AN INFECTION. BUT THE ANSWER IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK.

Healthy Gay Life & Hawthorn House  
For a confidential, free and friendly service to the Birmingham community, call 0121 440 4040. Please call us during our hours.

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At Hawthorn House, we offer a confidential, free and friendly service to the Birmingham community. We are open 10am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. For a confidential, free and friendly service to the Birmingham community, call 0121 440 4040. Please call us during our hours.

Healthy Gay Life & Hawthorn House  
For a confidential, free and friendly service to the Birmingham community, call 0121 440 4040. Please call us during our hours.

HEALTHY GAY LIFE: 0121 440 6101  
**WWW.HGL.NHS.UK**  
hgl@heartofengland.nhs.uk

**NHS**

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[www.sexualhealth.com](http://www.sexualhealth.com)

# LGBT Network Wolverhampton manager nominated for Positive Role Model Award!

LGBT Network Wolverhampton's Martha Bishop has been shortlisted for the Positive LGBT Role Model award at the National Diversity Awards, which honour the outstanding achievements of grassroots communities nationwide.

Headline sponsors Microsoft are just one of the brands at the 2014 awards supporting a sky full of diversity talent - positive role models, community organisations and businesses from the LGBT, ethnic minority, age, gender, religion and disability communities.

Over 21,000 nominations were received this year, paying tribute to inspirational individuals and groups nationwide that have dedicated their lives to enhancing the equality agenda.

Martha is currently the General Manager of LGBT Network Wolverhampton. Since joining in 2011, and with the support of an incredible team of volunteers, she's overseen the securing of an LGBT centre and the development of a host of much-needed support services for the local community. There are now 18 separate special interest groups in existence, including services for older LGBT\* people and a mental health

support group.

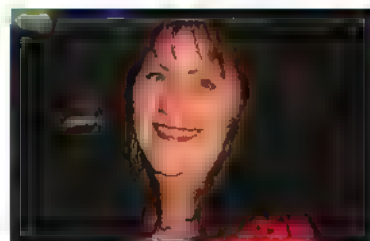
The volunteers won The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in June of this year.

The Hurlingham Club in London is playing host to the National Diversity Awards on 26 September. The black-tie event is being sponsored by Lloyds Banking group, which operates the UK's largest retail bank, international accountants PwC, media giants Sky, and the Secret Service Mi5.

TV personality Brian Dowling is returning to host the ceremony alongside CBeebies presenter Cerrie Burnell. Commenting on the forthcoming awards, Brian said, "I'm so excited! I've witnessed the awards go from strength to strength, and I'm always truly taken aback by the humbling and uplifting stories of all the nominees and award winners."

The awards have gained enormous celebrity support from the likes of Stephen Fry, Brian Blessed and singing sensation Misha B.

Bafta Award winning actor Adam Deacon has also added his support, saying "The National Diversity Awards exceed in bringing people from all walks of life together. Their ability to



highlight positive role models and community organisations from under-represented backgrounds is so necessary in the fight for social justice."

Paralympic gold medallist Giles Long MBE commented: "As the country becomes ever more diverse, it's important that difference is recognised, celebrated and embraced as the excitingly positive force for change that it is." Last year's Diversity Awards winners included Face Equality Campaigner James Partridge OBE, groundbreaking entrepreneur Jessica Hale and grassroots breakaway group Birmingham LGBT.

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- Peer Support Groups
- Support for sero-discordant relationships
- Support and advice around your rights, discrimination or hate crime
- Twice monthly non-scene Gay & Bisexual Men's group
- UNIQUE - Young Persons (16-24 yrs) LGBTQ support

Contact us today to book an appointment or for more information

Unit 2, Holloway House, Martin Hill Street Dudley DY2 8RT  
Suite 3, 1st Floor, Lanchard House, Victoria Street, West Bromwich B70 8ER

[Info@shsl.org.uk](mailto:Info@shsl.org.uk) / 01384 243 220



## ACTING OUT

**ACE** A Choir of Equality Meets every Thursday 5.30pm Tel: 0115 4210952

**ACTING OUT** An acting group for the LGBT community open to anyone. Contact: [actingout@btinternet.com](mailto:actingout@btinternet.com) or visit: [www.actgroup.org.uk](http://www.actgroup.org.uk)

**ARTPHIDE** Art group. Contact: [artphide@btinternet.com](mailto:artphide@btinternet.com)

**BARDS & BOOKS** Reading group. Every 1st Monday. Leicestershire LGBT Centre. Bham. [ehousehouse@hotmail.com](mailto:ehousehouse@hotmail.com)

**BIGSO** Birmingham Gay Symphony Orchestra. Contact: [info@bigso.org.uk](mailto:info@bigso.org.uk) or visit: [www.bigso.org.uk](http://www.bigso.org.uk)

**BUCKLEY LIBRARY LGBT READING GROUP** 1st Friday of Every Month. Tel: 01154 815060

**CAMP** Gay and Performing. Privately. Birmingham. Call Mike 01154 30191

**LEICESTER POETRY OPEN** Mike Night. Meets last Tues monthly at The Med. Tel: 01154 301177

**LEICESTERSHIRE RAINBOW VOICES** LGBT choir. Meets every Tues in Leicester. Call Chris 01154 301560

**LGBT READING GROUP** Every 3rd Wednesday monthly. 7pm. Tel: 01154 301562

**JOURNEY FILM GROUP** LGBT Film group meets every 1st & 3rd Tuesday monthly. [www.journeyfilmgroup.co.uk](http://www.journeyfilmgroup.co.uk)

**RAINBOW SPIRIT** Creative. Activities for gay men. Call Jon 01154 411206

**RAINBOW VOICES** LGBT choir. Call Jon 01154 411206

**SMETHWICK LIBRARY** LGBT Reading Group. 1st Monday monthly. 5.45pm. Tel: 01154 301562

**UNTOLED STORIES** LGBT history. Leicestershire & Rutland. [info@leicestershirelgbtcentre.org](mailto:info@leicestershirelgbtcentre.org)

**WALSALL LGBT BOOK CLUB** 1st Sat monthly. 11am. Walsall Central Library. Contact: [kum@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:kum@walsall.gov.uk)

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the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm at the Hix. Tel: 0115 4210952

**BIRMINGHAM OUT** Meets at a different restaurant each month. [brumouting@hotmail.com](mailto:brumouting@hotmail.com)

**COVENTRY LADS** Social group away from the scene. Call 0115 4210952

**DE MONTFORT LGBT SOCIETY** Based in Leicester. [www.dmsoc.org.uk](http://www.dmsoc.org.uk)

**DERBYSHIRE CC** Employee Network. [www.derbyshirecc.org.uk](http://www.derbyshirecc.org.uk)

**DERBYSHIRE REACHOUT** Men's social group. Tel: 01154 301177

**DOSTI** South Asian men's group. Leicester. Call 01154 301177

**DIXLEY GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SOCIAL SCENE GROUP** 2nd Sat monthly. Free buffet lunch provided. Call: Matt Bannock 01154 301177

**THE EDWARD CARPENTER COMMUNITY OF GAY MEN** 1st Sat monthly. Birmingham contact: 0121 301177

**EVERGREEN** LGBT Social group in Bham. Tel: 01154 301177

**FAN** LGBT Social Events. Birmingham. [www.fanlgbt.co.uk](http://www.fanlgbt.co.uk)

**GAY CLASSIC CAR GROUP** 1st Sat monthly. 10.30. 4166

**GAYMEZ** LGBT Games Night in Wolverhampton. Twice monthly. Thurs 8.10pm. Tel: 01902 425092

**GLoucestershire** Gay & Lesbian Community. Social. 1st Sat monthly. 7.30. Tel: 01154 301177

**HEREFORD LGBT** Gay Men's group in the Heart Centre. Tel: 01154 301177

**HIGH 5 GROUP** Social group for men affected by HIV in Leicester. Tel: 01154 301177

**IME** Group for BME LGBT. Leicestershire. Tel: 01154 301177

**LAOS CAFE** Shropshire. Tel: 01154 301177

**LAOS CAFE** Weekly gathering for gay & lesbian men in Wolverhampton. Every Monday 6.30pm. Tel: 01154 301177

**LAUNDARY MOVEMENT** Building awareness for all to enjoy. Meets every Tues. [leicestershirelgbtmovement@gmail.com](mailto:leicestershirelgbtmovement@gmail.com)

**LEICESTER GAY GROUP** Call Peter 0115 4210952

**LEICESTER LGBT CENTRE CAFE** Leicester. Call: 01154 301177

**LGBT PARENTS** Network for LGBT parents. [www.lgbtparents.net](http://www.lgbtparents.net)

**LGBT SHREWSBURY** What's happening in Shrewsbury.

[lgbtshrewsbury.co.uk](http://lgbtshrewsbury.co.uk)

**LGBT STAFFORDSHIRE** Group in Town. Meets every Wed at The Universal. Tel: 01154 301177

**NOTTINGHAM BREAKOUT** Meets every Tuesday from 10.30pm. Tel: 01154 301177

**NUBIAN RAINBOW** Celebrations. Social. LGBT people in the community. Tel: 01154 301177

**OUT EVERYWHERE** Bringing people back to the scene. Tel: 01154 301177

**PINK SOUTHERN** Social. Meets every Wed. Tel: 01154 301177

**QUIZ NIGHT** 1st Wednesday monthly. Tel: 01154 301177

**SANDWELL GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SOCIAL SCENE GROUP** 2nd Sat monthly. Free buffet lunch provided. Call: Matt Bannock 01154 301177

**SHREWSBURY CHILL OUT** 1st Mon monthly. Tel: 01154 301177

**SOUTH ASIANS LGBT** Meeting. A venue. Social. Tel: 01154 301177

**THIRD WAY** Social Group for B men over 18. Every 3rd Tuesday monthly. Tel: 01902 425092

**TRUE COLOURS** Derby based BME LGBT Social group. Call 01154 301177

**WAGS** Walsall. Amigos. Social Group. Over 18s only. [wags@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:wags@walsall.gov.uk)

**WARWICK PRIDE** Social. Society. Organisers events in and around the University. Tel: 01154 301177

**WORCESTER LGBT NETWORK** Community. Leicestershire. [www.worcesterlgbt.org.uk](http://www.worcesterlgbt.org.uk)

**WS-MIDLANDS LGBT** Social group. Every 1st Tues monthly. 7.30pm in Walsall. Tel: 01154 301177

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL EMPLOYEE NETWORK** Formed in 2002. Email: [becky@cityofbirmingham.gov.uk](mailto:becky@cityofbirmingham.gov.uk)

**BIRMINGHAM LGBT COMMUNITY TRUST** campaigning and keeping in touch. Tel: 01154 301177

**BLACK GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S DISCUSSION FORUM** A safe discrete confidential space for black men to

discuss issues that affect their lives. Call: 0121 446 300

**CHANGING ATTITUDE** Contact: The Royal Corn. Contact: 01154 301177

**DERBY QUEST** For. Leicestershire. Tel: 01154 301177

**JOURNEY METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH** Birmingham. Call: 01154 301177

**LEICESTER GAY CATHOLICS** A group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people. Tel: 01154 301177

**LESBIAN & GAY CHRISTIANS** Leicestershire and day. Tel: 01154 301177

**LEICESTER LGBT EMPLOYEES NETWORK** Call: 01154 301177

**NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE** Gay Men's Group. Call: 01154 301177

**PINK SHIELD** Working to make Birmingham a safer place for the LGBT community. Tel: 01154 301177

**PRISM** A forum for LGBT people in Leicestershire. Call: 01154 301177

**RAINBOW HERITAGE** North. Leicestershire. Call: 01154 301177

discuss issues that affect their lives. Call: 0121 446 300

**CHANGING ATTITUDE** Contact: The Royal Corn. Contact: 01154 301177

**DERBY QUEST** For. Leicestershire. Tel: 01154 301177

**JOURNEY METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH** Birmingham. Call: 01154 301177

**LEICESTER GAY CATHOLICS** A group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people. Tel: 01154 301177

**LESBIAN & GAY CHRISTIANS** Leicestershire and day. Tel: 01154 301177

**LEICESTER LGBT EMPLOYEES NETWORK** Call: 01154 301177

**NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE** Gay Men's Group. Call: 01154 301177

**PINK SHIELD** Working to make Birmingham a safer place for the LGBT community. Tel: 01154 301177

**PRISM** A forum for LGBT people in Leicestershire. Call: 01154 301177

**RAINBOW HERITAGE** North. Leicestershire. Call: 01154 301177

**SEXUAL HEALTH** Meets every Tues. Tel: 01154 301177

**STAFFORDSHIRE LESBIAN AND GAY CHRISTIANS** Support group for lesbian and gay Christians. Tel: 01154 301177

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**BIRMINGHAM L G C M** Christian Organisation. Group. Tel: 01154 301177

**CHANGING ATTITUDE** Contact: The Royal Corn. Contact: 01154 301177

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**WOLVES WALKERS** Tel: 01902 425092

**WOLVES WARRIORS** Football. Call: 01154 301177

**BIRMINGHAM CITY UNI LGBT** Social events every week. [www.bcu.ac.uk](http://www.bcu.ac.uk)

**LGBT & FRIENDS SOCIETY** University of Leicestershire. [www.le.ac.uk](http://www.le.ac.uk)

**LGBT ASTON UNIVERSITY** Tel: 01154 301177

**STUDENT GROUPS** Leicestershire. Contact: [info@leicestershirelgbt.org.uk](mailto:info@leicestershirelgbt.org.uk)

**UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM LGBT ASSOCIATION** Social events every Wednesday & Saturday. Tel: 01154 301177

**BIRMINGHAM JULES** Social. Tel: 01154 301177

**BIRMINGHAM BULLS** LGBT. Tel: 01154 301177

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**OLDER LESBIAN GROUP** for the over 40s meets every 2nd Saturday of the month at 1pm at 10 Norton Tower. Contact online@nolmail.co.uk

**RUBY'S Mature Women's Group** Wolverhampton Tel: 01902 425092

**RUBYFRUIT WOMEN** Leicester based non-scene social group for lesbian, bisexual and questioning women of all ages. Wednesday nights from 7pm. Tel: 07512 156474

**THE PINK LINK** is a social space in Staffordshire for women with a different vision. Call: 01782 266998

**WORCESTER LESBIAN GROUP** Meets twice monthly. e.me.myself.179@outlook.com

## Youth Groups

**1ST OUT YOUTH GROUP** Leicester LGBT Centre, 15 Wellington Street. Leicester. Call: Paul Foxon on 0116 254 7412

**DERBYSHIRE LGBT Youth Forum** Tel: 01332 207704

**BALAXY Group** for lesbian, gay and bisexual young people aged 18 and under in Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire. Call 0300 123 0970

**FMIX Group** for young LGBTQ people in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin Call 01952 221410

**INSIDE OUT (Sandwell)** A youth club for LGBT and questioning young people and their friends. Tel: 0845 352 1276

**OUTBURST Nottingham** Support group for LGBT young people. Tel: 0115 952 5040

**OUT CENTRAL LGBT youth group** for young people 13-19 who are LGBT or questioning their sexuality Call 07826 873458

**OUT EAST Youth group** based in Sutton Coldfield. Tel: 07795 611781

**PRISM LGBTQ Support group** for young people in Coventry info@prismlgbtq.org

**SHOUT (Sandwell)** An LGBT youth steering group which works towards giving LGBT young people a voice in Sandwell. Tel: 0845 352 1276

**SPACE LGBT YOUTH GROUP** A group for young people aged 13 to 21 Tel: 01543 411413

**SPECTRUM - YOUNG LGBT SOCIAL GROUP** Leicestershire Group offering opportunities for young LGBT people. Call: 0116 254 7412

**UNIQUE Group** for young LGBTQ people. Meet twice monthly on Sundays. Call Matt or Justin 01384 243220

**X2Y Group** for young LGBT people in Wolverhampton Every

## HIV/AIDS Helplines

**AMPLUS** A Charity supporting people living with and affected by HIV Call 0121 622 6471

**FRESHWINDS HOUSE** Holistic care and support for people with life threatening illness. Tel: 0121 415 6670 (8 lines)

### HEALTHY GAY LIFE

**ITAM** confidential service working with Gay, Bisexual men to promote sexual mental and social health and well-being. Tel: 0121 440 6161

**LEICESTERSHIRE AIDS SUPPORT SERVICES** Tel: 0116 255 9995

**STAFFORDSHIRE BUDDIES** Confidential help and support for people living with or affected by HIV Tel: 01782 201251

**SUMMIT HOUSE SUPPORT** Practical Support and confidential advice around all HIV/AIDS related issues in the Dudley Sandwell borough. Tel: 01384 243220

**TERRENCE HIGGINS TRUST** Offer a range of services for those infected and affected by HIV and STIs. Birmingham: 0121 694 6440 Solihull: 0121 694 6440 Coventry: 02476 229292 Nottingham: 0115 882 0121

Telford: 01952 221410 Wolves: 01902 711818

**TRADE SEXUAL HEALTH** Offers a range of confidential services advice and support for LGBT communities affected by HIV & STIs Leicester Tel: 0116 254 1747

## LGBT Helplines

**COVENTRY & WARWICK SHIRE FRIEND** Tel: 02476 714199

**DERBYSHIRE LGBT SWITCHBOARD** Tel: 01332 349333

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTEGRATED RESPONSE PROJECT** Leicester. Tel: 0116 255 0004

**GAYLIFE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE** Tel: 0300 123 0970

**HATE CRIME NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE** Talk to a Hate Crime officer in complete confidence. Stoke area. Tel: 01782 266998 (Lolaita Higgins) North Staffs Tel: 01785 233458 (John Wilson)

**LBS COUNSELLING SERVICE** Free counselling service for all sorts of LGBT related issues. Call: 01782 425969

**LEICESTER LGBT HELP-LINE** Tel: 0116 255 0667

**LGBT AA MEETING** West Midlands. 8pm every Sat. Summit House, Dudley. Tel: 01384 243220

**LGBT STAFFORDSHIRE** Stoke on Trent & North Staffs. Tel: 01782 266998

**NOTTINGHAM LESBIAN & GAY SWITCHBOARD** 0115 934 8485 or 01623 621515

**RAINBOW SUPPORT, HEREFORDSHIRE** free and confidential support Call 07507 447834

**TRADE SEXUAL HEALTH** Offers counselling services and one to one support for LGBT communities Leicester Tel: 0116 254 1747

**VICTIM SUPPORT** Provides emotional support and practical help to anyone who has been a victim of crime Tel: 0300 308 1977

## Support Groups

**AMPLUS Poz Gay Men's Group** Meets 1st Thursday monthly for information and support. Call: Peter on 07960 404926

**RECOVERY & REPAIR** Recovery LGBT Group Call Emma 07817 745079

**BIRMINGHAM PARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP** Meets 1st Wednesday Bi-monthly in Solihull. Tel: Maureen on 0121 742 0230

**BEAM (Black ethnic & Asian Minority)** Social and Support Group In Leicester. Call 0116 254 7412

**COVENTRY & WARWICKSHIRE** gay, lesbian bisexual or trans? Need to talk? Call 02476 714199 Mon-Fri 7.30pm-9pm

**CHANGES** Based in Wolverhampton. Call: Lisa on 07964240222 or Maria on 07542 450163

**DOSTI** South Asian men's support group Leicester. Call: 0116 254 1747

**GROUP ONE** Derby based support group for LGBT families call 07779 560284

**HGL COUNSELLING & PSYCHOTHERAPY** Mental and sexual health, for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and trans people with a choice of male or female counsellors. Tel: 0121 446 1085 or 07976 919481

**HOW MANY OF US?** GROUP Support and advice for married men. Call: 0121 440 6161

**HIGH 5 GROUP** An HIV awareness group for gay/bisexual men who are affected by HIV. Group provides Support, events, outings. Leicester. Tel: 0116 254 1747

**HIV MEN'S GROUP** Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin Call: 01952 221410

**HIV WOMEN'S GROUP** Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin Call: 01952 221410

**INFORMAL ONE TO ONE SUPPORT** A service for young men. South Asian

men and African Caribbean men. Tel: 0121 440 6161 Email: info@ng.nhs.uk

**KETTERING OUT AND PROUD ASSOCIATION** Organises support in the Kettering area. Call: 07877 825235

**LEICESTER LGBT CENTRE** Host numerous support groups. Call: 0116 254 7412

**LGBT ALCOHOL SUPPORT GROUP** Offer support to anybody in the gay community who has alcohol related problems. Tel: Tony on 0121 440 6161 or 07760 196642

**LGBT NETWORK** Stoke on Trent & North Staffordshire. Tel: 01782 266998

**LGBT NETWORK** Wolverhampton. Holistic support for LGBT people in the Black Country. Tel: 01902 425092

**LGBT COUNSELLING** Wolverhampton. Tel: 01902 425092

**LGBT PROFESSIONALS** in Wolverhampton. Meets once a month. Tel: 01902 425092

**MIND OUT** Mental Health Support Group in Wolverhampton. 1st and 3rd Wednesday monthly.

Tel: 01902 425092

**NATURAL HEALING** For emotional and physical health. Contact Alison Lesbian Homeopath. Tel: 01902 688087

**NEW ROAD PARENTS** Bromsgrove and surrounding areas. Supporting parents of LGBT people. Meets bi-monthly on the 1st Wed. Tel: Margaret 01527 832492

**PINK PARENTS** A social networking group for all lesbian and gay parents and their children. E. pink parents@virginmedia.com

**RANK OUTSIDERS** Support group for LGBT armed forces personnel past & present. Helpline 0870 740 7755

**RAPE & SEXUAL VIOLENCE PROJECT BIRMINGHAM** Free confidential counselling for LGBT survivors of sexual, domestic violence and hate crimes. Tel: 0121 200 1695

**SANDWELL Gay & Bisexual Men's Drop-In Service**. Every Friday. Tel: 01384 243220

**STONEWALL** Free information service Tel: 08000 50 20 20

**SWAIN Wyre Forest** Meets

the first Wednesday monthly. For more details phone Tel: 07842 070 240

**WORCESTER LGBT NETWORK** Tel: 01905 428800

## Trans Support

**LEICESTER BUTTERFLIES** for info visit facebook.com/groups/butterfliesleicester, info@butterfliesleicester.org

**OUTSKIRTS TRANS-GENDER SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUP** The West Midlands largest transgender social support group. Email: sally@outskirtsgt.co.uk or visit www.outskirtsgt.co.uk

**SANCTUARY** Providing support and practical help Tel: 01902 744424

**SANCTUARY STOKE** Support people who are Transsexual Transvestite or Transgender in North Staffs www.gaystoke.org.uk

**TRANS SOUTH STAFFS** Support and group for people who are Trans. Transvestite or Transgender. Tel: 01543 411413

**TRANS SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUP** Meets every 1st and 3rd Monday monthly Tel: 01902 426092

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- RACE
- RELIGION
- SEXUAL ORIENTATION
- TRANSGENDER

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Would you like support in dealing with the issues?

**Birmingham LGBT Centre, 38/40  
Holloway Circus, Birmingham. B1 1EQ  
From 7.30pm - 9.00pm**

You can email us at

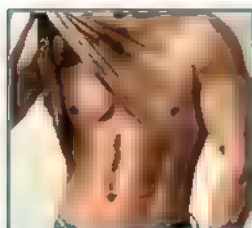
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November 6th & 21st  
December 4th & 19th**

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you do not have to be from Walsall to take advantage of this service

**Walsall HIV Team 07963 124 445**  
morriscolin@walsall.gov.uk ~ melsmore@walsall.gov.uk  
Walsall Centre for Sexual Health (GUM) 01922 63 33 41

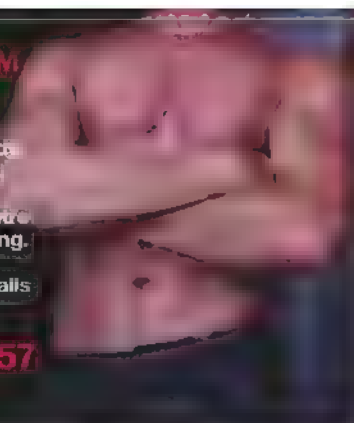


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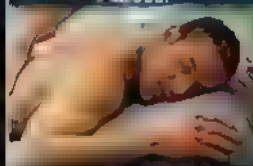
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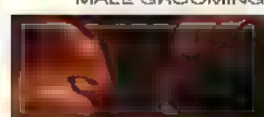
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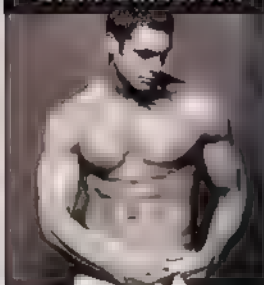
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## SAUNA DIRECTORY



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[gay-sauna.com](http://gay-sauna.com)

### SPARTAN

Tel: 0121 382 3345

127 George Road, Erdington  
Birmingham, B23 7SH  
[spartanhealthclub.co.uk](http://spartanhealthclub.co.uk)

### UNIT 2

Tel: 0121 622 7070

Lower Essex Street  
Birmingham, B5 6SN  
[unit2sauna.info](http://unit2sauna.info)

### CELTS

Tel: 0116 285 6000

111A, The Grove, B2  
Leicester, LE1 1BA  
[celts-sauna.co.uk](http://celts-sauna.co.uk)

### CITY STEAM

Tel: 01332 209150

87, The Victoria Hotel  
Leicester, LE1 1JF  
[citysteam.co.uk](http://citysteam.co.uk)

### CITY STEAM 2

Tel: 0115 959 8603

1 Lennox Street  
Nottingham NG1 1ER  
[citysteam.co.uk](http://citysteam.co.uk)

### HEROES HEALTH CLUB

Tel: 01384 442030

4-5 Lower Hill, Leicester  
Leicester, LE1 1JF  
DY8 1TE  
[heroeshealthclub.com](http://heroeshealthclub.com)

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11A, The Grove, B2  
Leicester, LE1 1BA  
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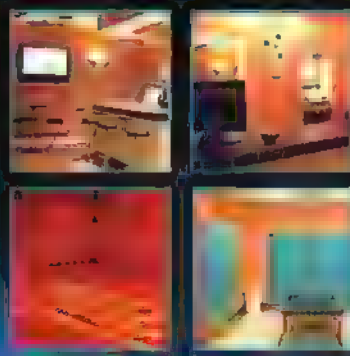
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## THE GUDRUN LIMBRICK COLUMN

### Coming out is personal, no matter who you are...

On several occasions, I've heard how wonderful it is that Kellie Maloney has revealed to the public her journey, and that we've all come a long way in accepting and understanding the trans community.

And yes, of course it is good to read a positive story and, in general, the media stories I have read and viewed have been sympathetic and supportive and have allowed Kellie to speak for herself – a far cry from the tawdry 'Sex Swap Shock!' stories which were popular in the press not so long ago.

But Kellie's story is not all heart-warming and cuddly. She has said that she by no means came out so publicly as a matter of choice but because she and her family had been hounded for months by certain elements of the gutter press. They had got a sniff of the story and were desperate to wheedle the details from whoever had something to say, presumably with the threat that the story would be told no matter who co-operated or didn't co-operate. Kellie eventually felt forced to say herself what others were threatening to say 'on her behalf'.

Kellie has said that her transition being so public has been something of a 'release' and I am sure that reading the story will have proved inspirational for many people.

So we got a good, positive story but by terrible means. It's a bit like someone stealing eggs and then saying how marvellous it is that they made a beautiful cake with them. Yes, the cake's nice but someone undoubtedly lost their eggs. And in Kellie's case, I can only imagine how difficult this

sudden, enforced exposure has been for her, her friends and her family.

I have to say, having no interest in boxing whatsoever, I had never heard of Frank Maloney the boxing promoter. I do remember however (what I would consider to be homophobic) remarks made by Kellie when standing as a London mayoral candidate for UKIP some 10 years ago. But UKIP people have come out with so much guff since that Kellie's comments have kind of got lost in the fog of nonsense. I don't believe that that has any impact on her right to a private life.

I cannot see that her story was in any in the 'public interest'. Yes, we, as the public, might find it interesting, in a voyeuristic way, but that does not mean we have the right to know. Journalists certainly had no right to pressure her into saying publicly anything that was so very personal. But why were the journalists so keen? Because they knew that the story would sell newspapers.

The fact that most newspapers have treated her story in a mature fashion does not mean that we can all start patting each other on the back about how far we have come. The back-patting can only begin when stories like these no longer sell newspapers leaving unscrupulous journalists with nothing to gain from behaving so badly.



## ON THE BALL with Steve Ball

### Alone

Another month, another revelation that a famous sports-person is gay. In July it was Australian swimming champion Ian Thorpe who, after years of denial, admitted that he is gay. It takes guts to come out, especially if you are in the public eye but if it's been tough for Gareth Thomas, Tom Daley and Ian Thorpe imagine what it must have been like for John Curry nearly 40 years ago.

A new biography 'Alone; The Triumph and Tragedy of John Curry' reveals the full extent of his courage. Born in Birmingham in 1949 Curry told his mother he wanted to take ballet lessons. But although she agreed his father had other views believing that ballet was not an acceptable pastime for a factory owner's son. So Curry took up skating and dreamt of being the Rudolf Nureyev of the ice. But unspoken homophobia responded negatively to Curry's grace and musicality regarding his 'effeminacy' as an undesirable image for the sport. Nevertheless within three months Curry won the European and World Championships and was, at the 1976 Innsbruck Olympics, the first Briton in decades to win gold at a Winter Olympics. He shot to fame and remarkably, for a gay athlete in the 1970s, didn't try to hide his sexuality. In an interview the day after his triumph he spoke about being gay and re-

vealed at a press conference that 'I don't think I lack virility. What other people think of me doesn't matter.'

When he retired from competitive skating Curry developed his quest to turn skating into an art form establishing his own ice dance company. Yet despite critical success his relationships with other skaters were often fraught and his company ended in bankruptcy. In 1987 at the age of 37 Curry discovered that he was HIV positive and when he developed Aids he returned to the UK and sold his story to the press.

Despite his troubles Curry showed great talent, strength and courage and is one of the Midlands' few gay icons. Perhaps it is time for a permanent memorial to this skating genius in his native city.

*Alone; The Triumph and Tragedy of John Curry by Bill Jones is published by Bloomsbury*

## Quotes of the month...

Here we take some of our favourite (and often controversial) comments from [www.midlandszone.co.uk](http://www.midlandszone.co.uk), Facebook page and Twitter feed...



### God Hates Fags Church set to picket Robin Williams' funeral

How is this legal? This crosses 'freedom of speech' laws? This is harassment? Bullying? Trespassing? Surely to God something can be done legally about these people?  
*Shells Bells (via Facebook)*

And you're letting them achieve their goals by giving these cretins news space and distracting people's attention from the loss of a great man. If the media didn't unwittingly fuel these idiots' fire then they would have no ability to spread their message of hatred.  
*Ant Mrr (via Facebook)*

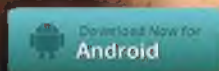
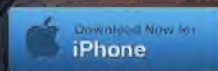
I'm curious as to why these people haven't been done for disturbing the peace or forced to be disbanded. All they do is hurt and abuse innocent people and the memories of wonderful people.  
**GET RID!**

*Nicole Green (via Facebook)*

These people need locking up in a madhouse and the key thrown away. They are totally nuts and need help, but the good thing is that Hell is waiting for them. I hope they enjoy it because nothing they have done is Christian.  
*CK Wolf (via Facebook)*



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